

Jordan Times

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Shultz hits snag in C. America

GUATEMALA CITY (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz arrived in Guatemala Monday hoping to foster an anti-Nicaragua alliance in Central America but found his would-be allies sharply split. Costa Rica and Guatemala refused to support a strong seven-page draft communiqué denouncing Nicaragua's Sandinista government. The draft had been backed by Honduras, El Salvador and the United States. Instead, foreign ministers of the four Central American governments meeting here could only agree on a two-page statement, with Shultz reaffirming support for democracy and economic development, but with no reference to Nicaragua. "We want to emphasize that the consensus which had existed has been shattered," Honduras Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez told reporters before Shultz arrived for talks with the four foreign ministers and with Guatemalan President Vicio Cerezo. Nicaragua was not invited to the conclave. Guatemala was Shultz's first stop on a nine-nation, 10-day trip in which he hoped to emphasize U.S. foreign policy achievements in Latin America.

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AROUND THE WORLD...

Armenian dissident heads for Paris

ROME (R) — A dissident expelled from the Soviet Union left Rome for Paris Monday, saying he still wanted to go back to Soviet Armenia. Paruir Arlikyan told reporters in Rome: "My aim is to return to Armenia. My place is there."

U.S., Soviet officials discuss Mideast

GENEVA (R) — U.S. and Soviet officials began two days of discussions Monday on the Gulf war and the Arab-Israeli peace process, a U.S. spokesman said. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy met his Soviet counterpart, Vladimir Polyakov, in what the spokesman termed a routine consultation. After the talks Murphy is to visit Israel, Jordan, Syria and Egypt.

Anglicans endorse women bishops

CANTERBURY (R) — Anglican leaders overwhelmingly endorsed a compromise resolution Monday allowing the consecration of women as bishops. The motion was adopted by 423 votes to 28 with 19 abstentions. Over 520 bishops representing 164 countries, seeking to resolve one of the greatest crises their faith has faced in decades, debated the issue for two weeks at the 10-yearly Lambeth conference. Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie warned that the conference could be the last if a compromise was not reached.

3 Egyptians killed in Iranian attack

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Egypt has told the United Nations that three Egyptians were killed and three others injured as a result of an attack by an Iranian gunboat against a Kuwaiti fishing boat in the Gulf July 28. Egyptian U.N. Representative Abdul Halim Badawi informed Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar of the incident in a brief letter published Monday. He did not request any action.

International talks to be held in Kampuchea

BANGKOK (AP) — Representatives of more than 30 nations and international organizations will attend talks on the Kampuchean conflict this weekend in Phnom Penh, official Kampuchean Radio said Monday. The broadcast said the talks Saturday and Sunday would focus on "national reconciliation in Kampuchea, negotiations, and cooperation in South-East Asia."

Anti-Chad force admits entering Sudan

PARIS (R) — A Chadian rebel force Monday confirmed that 2,000 of its guerrillas had crossed into western Sudan from Libya but stressed their intentions were peaceful. "The Revolutionary Democratic Council (CDR) troops are in Sudan, but we do not intend to represent any threat to the Sudan government or to Chad," CDR spokesman Galleth Gattout told Reuters in Paris. "Our presence there should rather be regarded as a sign of our movement's independent political and military role in the Chadian crisis... all we want is autonomy," he added.

Afghan rebels to free 2 Soviet prisoners

ISLAMABAD (R) — Afghan guerrilla leaders announced Monday they would release two Soviet prisoners of war as a "gesture of goodwill." The announcement came as a Western diplomat reported a big offensive against the rebels was under way near Kabul. A seven-party guerrilla alliance based in Pakistan said the prisoners would be handed over to Soviet authorities through the International Committee of the Red Cross. Alliance chairman Syed Ahmad Gailani said in a statement the guerrilla groups were also ready to "take measures to stop attacking Soviet troops while withdrawing, provided they stop military involvement in backing the Kabul regime."

British premier in Australia

PERTH (AP) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher arrived Monday on the first leg of a six-day visit expected to include talks on trade, sanctions against South Africa, international trade protection and disarmament. Thatcher is to fly to the outback central desert town of Alice Springs Tuesday to meet with students at the School of the Air and visit the Flying Doctor service, which bring health and education to remote desert communities.

Philippine military rejects rebel deal

MANILA (R) — The Philippine military Monday rejected communist rebel demands for the release of two top guerrilla leaders as part of a deal to free five hostage soldiers. The communist New People's Army (NPA) demanded the release of its former commander-in-chief, Juanito Rivera, who was captured last November, regional chief, Jesusito Rivera, and three others. In exchange, it said it would release the five soldiers it has held captive since June 1. Army spokesman Colonel Oscar Florendo told reporters: "How can they make a demand? We are not negotiating with them."

Soviet emigration rises

GENEVA (AP) — Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union reached its highest monthly level in eight years in July, with a total of 1,639 allowed to leave the country, the agency involved in emigration resettlement said Monday. It represented the seventh straight monthly increase in the number of arrivals at the Vienna transit centre, the Geneva-based Inter-Governmental Committee for Migration said. Only 930 opted for new homes in Israel, well below the recent average, according to ICM. The July figure was the highest one-month figure since June 1980, when 1,767 Jews left the country. For the seventh-month period in 1980, 16,178 Jews emigrated, more than twice the 7,656 so far this year.

New Thai parliament opens

BANGKOK (AP) — Constitutional monarch King Bhumibol Adulyadej Monday opened the newly elected parliament, but no development was reported on formation of a new government. The 357-seat House of Representatives was chosen in the July 24 general elections, and five political parties have formed a coalition to govern the nation. But no new leadership lineup has been announced. Although the coalition members have agreed to back the Chart Thai (Thai Nation) party leader, Chatchai Choonhavan, as prime minister to replace Prem Tinsulanonda, who refused to return after eight years in power. Chatchai was nominated because Chart Thai won the most seats in the election.

Jackson, Ed Koch willing to meet

CHICAGO (AP) — Jesse Jackson and New York Mayor Ed Koch said Monday they were willing to meet and try to heal or set aside differences that have simmered since Koch's strong criticism of Jackson before the New York primary. Jackson, who lost the April primary and later the Democratic presidential nomination to Michael Dukakis, said Koch called him at his Chicago home early Monday and said he would like to meet. Koch's criticism last April included a statement that Jackson would be "crazy" to vote for Jackson, who supports Palestinian self-determination.

Palestinians welcome Jordanian move, hope for positive PLO action

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories and the Palestine Liberation Organisation as well as Arab circles Monday welcomed Jordan's decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the occupied West Bank.

Many Palestinians in the West Bank were quoted as saying by international news agencies as expressing hope that the Jordanian decision, announced in a national speech by His Majesty King Hussein Sunday, will be followed by decisive PLO action to shoulder its responsibilities as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Hanna Siniara, editor of the Al Fajr daily, was quoted as describing the decision as positive and hoping that the PLO would act in accordance with the Kingdom's

position. Radwan Abu Ayyah, chairman of the Jerusalem-based Arab Journalist Union, supported the move and said it was a "correct and realistic step which commensurates with the wishes of the

PLO." "It's a good gesture for the Palestinians and it should start the ball rolling in the direction of working out strategic relationships between the PLO and Jordan on the future," Palestinian journalist Daoud Kuttab of the Nazareth daily Al Sinaa told

Israel Radio.

PLO reaction

Reuters quoted an Arab diplomat in Baghdad as saying that the PLO would send a mission to Jordan within 48 hours to discuss the Kingdom's move.

The diplomat, who was not identified, told the news agency that the mission would be headed by a member of the PLO Executive Committee. He said the Palestine Central Council (PCC) held urgent talks in Baghdad overnight and into Monday on the King's announcement.

The Associated Press quoted Farouk Kaddoumi, member of the Executive Committee and head of the PLO's Political Department, as praising Jordan-PLO relations.

(Continued on page 5)

Jordan rejects Israeli report as fabrication

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Monday dismissed as fabrication an Israeli Television report that the Kingdom had prepared "red travel documents" to replace the Jordanian passports which the citizens in the occupied territories are carrying.

An official spokesman quoted by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the Israeli report "falls within the framework of fabricated news that the Israeli media are carrying in recent days. These reports are totally false and pure fabrication."

Israelis expel 8 Palestinians

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The Israeli occupation authorities expelled eight Palestinians to Lebanon Monday, accusing them of taking part in violent protests during the seven-month-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The expulsion of six men from West Bank towns and two from the Gaza Strip took to about 30 the number of Palestinians expelled since the mass rebellion against Israel's occupation started last December.

"The expulsion orders were carried out for being involved in organising and carrying out violent demonstrations" in the occupied territories, an Israeli army spokesman said.

At least one of the expelled was a journalist — Lu'ai Abdo from Nablus, who spent 12 years in Israeli prisons.

The army's new expulsions, the first since April, took place on the first day of a two-day strike called by underground leaders of the uprising in protest against the

policy. Sources in the southern Lebanese town of Marjayoun said the eight expelled Palestinians were sent into Lebanon from Israel's self-declared "security zone" at Zemaraya, one of five crossing points between the zone and the Bekaa Valley.

The source identified the eight as Ziad Rashid Al Nakhal and Jamal Awad Zakout, both from Gaza, Samir Mahmoud Abdul Kader and Jamal Diab Al Lati, both from Al Birah, Othman Dagher and Ahmad Jaber Suleiman, both from Ramallah, Lu'ai Abdo from Nablus, and Mursi Abu Hdalah.

In Gaza, troops fired tear-gas to disperse stone-throwing protesters, Palestinians said. No ma-

General strike in West Bank, Gaza Strip

Major incidents were reported in the West Bank, though shops shut and public transport stopped.

Doctors in Gaza's Khan Younis refugee camp said seven-month-old Nidal Yussuf Amir died in hospital from the effects of tear-gas inhalation after troops broke up demonstrations outside his home two days ago.

An Israeli military court Monday sentenced Jihad Abidi, 21, from the West Bank city of Ramallah, to 25 years imprisonment for taking part in the stabbing of two Israeli brothers in Jerusalem in January 1987.

The brothers, both stabbed in the neck, recovered. The court also found Abidi guilty of planning several attacks which were not carried out.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir told ultra-nationalist Israelis Monday he would work for massive Jewish settlement in Jerusalem's walled Old City as well as in other parts of the Arab sector of the Holy City.

Ten members of the "Temple Mount Faithful," a small group campaigning for Jewish control of the site of Haram Al Sharif, also urged Shamir to stop Palestinian protests in Arab Jerusalem.

"We will do more in order to prevent riots, and to bring more and more Jews to live in East Jerusalem and the Old City," Shamir's spokesman Yossi Ahimeir quoted the right-wing prime minister as saying.

"Many Jews will come to live in East Jerusalem. Jerusalem will forever be the capital of the state of Israel and a mainly Jewish city," Shamir was quoted as telling the group.

Members of the Arab Studies Centre denounced the Israeli authorities' decision Sunday to close their organisation for a year and to detain its head, Faisal Hussein, without trial for six months.

"These actions... are part of a broader Israeli policy to deny Palestinians in East Jerusalem, as well as the West Bank and Gaza, their basic human rights," said Vice-Chairman Ishaq Budeiry.

U.N. resumes efforts for ceasefire in Gulf

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar began a second week of ceasefire talks Monday with Iran and Iraq, but the Gulf war belligerents remain divided over the issue of holding a face-to-face meeting.

Perez de Cuellar said Saturday he continued to hold "some hope" that he would be able to announce the date of a ceasefire this week.

He was meeting Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati at 2100 GMT for continued discussions on ending the nearly eight-year-old war and implementing a U.N.-supervised ceasefire.

The meeting originally had been scheduled for 11 a.m. (1500 GMT). No reason was given for the delay.

No meeting was scheduled Monday with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz. The secretary-general's previous meeting was Saturday with Velayati.

The U.N. talks began last week after Iran abruptly announced it would accept Security Council Resolution 598, which demands an immediate ceasefire. The Iranian shift followed a series of battlefield defeats.

Iraq accused Iran of trying to buy time to regroup its forces, and demanded direct talks with the Iranians under U.N. auspices.

Iraq has rejected a face-to-face meeting before a ceasefire. But Saturday, an Iranian deputy foreign minister said in Abu Dhabi that his country would meet directly with Iraq if asked to do so by Perez de Cuellar.

The U.N. chief has previously said he could not impose direct talks on the Gulf war foes.

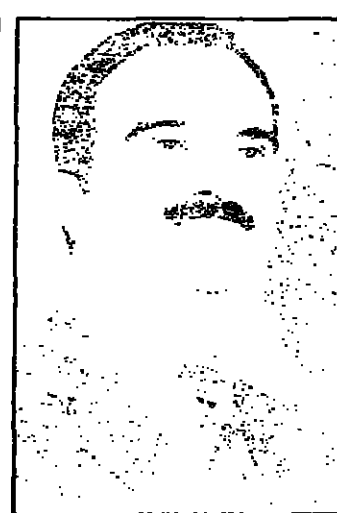
Iraq reaffirmed its stand Monday that direct talks between Tehran and Baghdad were the only way to end the war.

The Iraqi government newspaper Al Jumhuriya said Tehran's refusal to enter direct negotiations was a rejection of the U.N. peace resolution.

"Iran's rejection of direct talks is a game aimed at transforming the implementation of Resolution 598 to a mere ceasefire or temporary truce to serve its aggres-

Iran 'officially' contacts U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Iranian government replied officially to a U.S. suggestion to work towards improved relations, but imposed unacceptable conditions, a White House spokesman said Monday. Marlin Fitzwater said the message repeated demands the Iranians have made publicly, particularly the release of their frozen U.S. assets. He did not say when the communication arrived and would not describe what channel had been used by the Iranians. "I'd say that it didn't offer any new information," Fitzwater told the daily White House news briefing. "We have received a response to our earlier message, and the thrust of it was that they said the same thing in private that they had been saying in public." Fitzwater refused Monday to identify the source of the communication, although he said it had been accepted by the administration as official and authentic. "We considered it a serious response," Fitzwater said, "but I don't think we're willing to give it any significance." U.S. officials had privately confirmed two weeks ago that the main U.S. foe directed towards Tehran had been sent through the auspices of U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.



HRH Crown Prince Hassan

Crown Prince begins Swiss visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath left for Switzerland Monday on a private visit lasting several days. They were seen off by Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid and senior officials.

Masri heads for Baghdad to attend talks on Gulf war

AMMAN (Petra) — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri left for Baghdad Monday to participate in meetings of the seven-member Arab committee entrusted with following up developments of the Iran-Iraq war. The committee is scheduled to begin its meetings in Baghdad Tuesday.

Baghdad's State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saoudun Hammadi said Saturday that Iran's mere announcement of its acceptance of the resolution was not proof of its good intentions.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Mohammad Beshtari said in Abu Dhabi Sunday that Iran would do all it could to keep the peace process alive.

A team of U.N. truce experts was due to leave Baghdad for New York Monday night, after talks in both Iraq and Iran.

The team, headed by Lieutenant-General Martin Vastet of Norway, was scheduled to have raised technical details of the ceasefire's implementation, troop

withdrawals and the repatriation of prisoners of war (PoWs). None of the truce experts was available for comment on the mission's progress.

Another U.N. team arrived in Baghdad Sunday night to probe the PoW question, an Asian diplomat told Reuters. He did not provide further details.

Iraq said Saturday it had captured more than 12,000 Iranians during July, raising to 30,000 the number of prisoners of war it holds.

Baghdad estimates there are more than 70,000 Iraqi PoWs in Iran.

Iran hangs seven Mujahedeen fighters

NICOSIA (R) — Iran hanged seven members of the opposition Mujahedeen-e-Khalq group Monday for assisting a military offensive into western Iran last week, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported.

According to an Iranian military commander, the attack by the Mujahedeen's National Liberation Army (NLA) was part of plan involving "world arrogance" and Iraq to overthrow the Iranian government.

Ali Shamkhani, deputy commander for intelligence and operations at Iran's armed forces were killed.

IRA bombing kills 1, wrecks army barracks

LONDON (Agencies) — An explosion ripped through an army barracks in north London early Monday, killing one soldier and injuring at least nine other people, police and hospital authorities said. The outlandish Irish Republican Army (IRA) claimed responsibility.

In a message to the Northern Ireland bureau of the British news agency Press Association, the IRA said its guerrillas placed the bomb, which set off the 7 a.m. (0600 GMT) blast at the Inglis barracks in Mill Hill.

The bomb crumpled the living quarters at the barracks like a pack of cards. The victims were in a serious condition.

Fires raged for three hours as rescuers pulled the injured from heaps of rubble and smouldering timber. Half of the barracks, the army's main postal depot in the capital, lies in Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Finchley constituency.

In 1984, the IRA staged its most spectacular attack on mainland Britain in the southern resort city of Brighton, a bombing which nearly wiped out Thatcher's government during a conference of her Conservative Party.

Thatcher, who learned of Monday's explosion in Perth on the first day of her visit to Australia, said: "I have sent a message to say that I am very distressed to



Nelly Lama pays tribute to the late Augustine Lama, seen above playing the organ at the Roman Catholic church in Jerusalem

Augustine Lama: A man and myth

ANYONE who met Augustine Lama in the street would have judged him as a simple gentle-looking old man treading his way to work like many others. Yes, he was a very simple man and it was all he ever wanted to be. No one who knew his real worth ever understood this attitude. Augustine was a great musician, organist, composer, acknowledged by great professors of musicology from all over the world who would address him as "Maestro" or "Maitre". All the priesthood, whether resident in the West Bank, or just visiting, appreciated him, for they are mostly well-versed in Church music which is what Augustine specialised in; they even loved to consider him as one of them.

It might sound strange to hear his wife saying that he was predominantly a priest, and to know that his final resting place was among priests, but to have seen him live among them would not understand. Unlike any other civilian, Augustine had a room in the church of the Holy Sepulchre, in which he slept when he had an early morning service to play for. He played with his heart. Every note was his way of glorifying God. He never wanted any part of practical life to interrupt or in any way disrupt his calm, aesthetic and spiritual existence. And

because of a wonderful wife, that knew his worth — "in music Augustine is number one," — who accepted to take upon herself the financial, educational and cultural responsibility of nine children, he could sustain the almost mythical existence that he led. It must be true that behind every great man is a great woman. Augustine told me of the day they met. As a youth he played the piano for the Italian Girls' School in Jerusalem. One day, the prettiest girl was summoned to turn the pages for him. "She turned the pages, turned the pages and turned my heart." However spiritual, Augustine Lama never lost his vivid sense of humour.

Orphaned at a very young age, he was taken up by the priests, a debt he constantly felt he needed to repay. "Very young, I used to wait for everyone to get busy, then I would jump through the window and get access to the organ and play to my heart's content. Once I was caught by a priest. Instead of scolding me he sat beside me and taught me the basics, and I have played until now." This "now" ended about two months ago when at the age of 86, his legs gave way. No one knew how he managed to walk to his organ, yet when one saw his legs at the pedals going like a fast machine

interpreting Bach with an almost inhuman power one could not but exclaim "Mashallah" (What God has decreed), let alone the goose pimples and the tears that one cannot refrain from shedding.

Augustine's coy manner and almost childlike love of people was exhibited very much in his own way. When a friendly tourist came up the steps that led to the organ to meet the man who played so superbly, Augustine would return the compliment by playing the national anthem of the man's country. Once he played a march of a country in South America, but was told that it was changed. Without any embarrassment he asked the man to hum the tune of the new anthem. Within minutes, he was playing it, accompaniment and all.

Augustine often talked of the pleasure the late King Abdullah had when he summoned him to play music that he, Augustine, had no idea about. He would ask that it be hummed and off he went on the piano playing the tune in a pleased manner. Augustine was decorated with a Al Istiklal medal of the third order by King Abdullah. He received another medal from the Vatican.

He was offered many good positions and much money which he either rejected or used to add more pipes to the organ or gave

immediately and without a sound to orphans. Considering the way his family was toiling with the little income he was receiving, this was a really courageous thing to do. His family was God's responsibility, he believed. And truly enough, his nine children went to international universities and reached degrees of specialisation that many fathers would dream of for their children.

Interviewed a month before he passed away, Augustine cried and said: "I left my children alone, I did not attend to them, they grew up. I don't know how, they are all university educated... without an effort on my part... For sure it is a miracle. I spent my life glorifying God, for sure it is a miracle."

It is painful to lose such a great man. Many a choir in Amman and the West Bank will miss receiving his compositions, and their audience's expectations will be thwarted, for it was great to add to the performance a piece that was written by a local composer and that is sung for the first time. Augustine is not only a local composer, but the father of most existing musicians. He taught Salvador Armita and mentioned him for the post of music teacher at the American University of Beirut. Salvador started the Music Conservatory of Leba-

non that graduated many musicians. He also composed many pieces. Most of the music teachers and music lovers around us today, have had some if not all of their training with Augustine Lama. One place was left wanting. No one was able to take his place on the organ.

"When Augustine could not come to play" a priest told me, "three people would have to take his place, no one can handle his schedule."

Fortunately, one of his sons, Patrick Lama, studied music with his father and later, in Paris, studied with great masters: Piano at the Paris National Conservatory and composition at the "Ecole Normale de Musique." He is now summoned across the continents to schools of musicology to lecture about his compositions that are inspired by Classical Arabic music, and are written for the equal-tempered piano, as well as chamber ensembles and vocalists. To Patrick, the most emotional moment of his career was when his father congratulated him on his work. "Contemporary maybe, but aesthetically fine," he said.

We now place our hope in the Jordan conservatory of music to take up the youngsters of today and produce fine musicians to continue the legacy that Augustine Lama started in our country.

The West Bank, Gaza primary health debate

The following article is reprinted from the magazine, Tanmiya. The magazine is published by the Geneva-based The Welfare Association, a philanthropic foundation in 1983.

Field workers agree that the Palestinian uprising has placed intolerable strains on the health infrastructure in the West Bank and Gaza. Yet well before the uprising began late last year, there was considerable controversy over the state of the Palestinian population's health, with conflicting figures being used to give contradictory pictures of the situation.

There was clearly a need for a proper and comprehensive assessment of actual needs and facilities in the occupied territories. Several Palestinian voluntary health bodies have carried out studies recently, and made recommendations based on their findings.

The most serious gaps were uncovered in the field of primary health care, and it was demonstrated beyond doubt that Palestinians outside urban centres had little access to health care services.

Perhaps the most comprehensive survey of the West Bank was carried out by the Jerusalem-based Medical Association (doctors' union), which published the results in March 1987.

A team of 15 doctors worked under the guidance of Dr. Salim Farid al-Hussaini to carry out the survey, which covered primary health care and hospital services. For the primary health care section, the doctors surveyed 489 population centres on the West Bank, that is, all towns, and almost all villages and hamlets. They examined water, electricity and transport services, finding a dearth of services in smaller hamlets and villages. Of the population centres, 71 had no electricity at all, while 189 were served by small generators owned by individuals or groups, which then sold electricity to those who could afford it.

The doctors noted that some 58% of the population centres relied on collected rain water, and pointed out that the potability of such water was questionable. Moreover, there was the constant danger of sewage seeping into the rain water wells. As regards transport, 35 of the centres were not linked by any modern transport facilities at all. And in terms of health transport services, ambulances were almost wholly concentrated in hospitals in urban centres. The distances between population centres and medical services, including pharmacies, were between nine and 20 kilometres for the smaller villages.

The doctors found that primary health care services — diagnostic, curative, referral to hospitals, and follow-up on the one hand, and mother and child care, school health care, vaccination campaigns and so on, on the other

hand — were completely lacking in 248 out of the 489 population centres surveyed.

The worst off regions were Hebron and Jenin, respectively 68.1% and 65.4% of their population centres had no medical services. Some of the doctors' findings are given in the adjoining table.

Another of the worrying findings was the widespread reliance, partly as a result of the dearth of medical services, on popular and folk medicine. For instance, the use of herbs ranged from widespread in the Hebron region, to occasional in the Tulkarem region.

Over the last few years, a number of voluntary medical groups have been established, whose aim is to take health care out to the villages. These include the Union of Medical Relief Committees, the Health Services Committees, the Health Care Committees and the Popular Committees for Health Services.

The oldest and most established of these committees is the Union of Medical Relief Committees (MRC) which began functioning in 1982, and soon grew from half a dozen doctors to several hundred.

A paper prepared by the MRC and presented at the U.N.-sponsored September 1987 conference of non-governmental organisations discussed the issue of primary health in some depth.

The MRC report made it clear that health conditions in the occupied territories were poor, especially outside the urban central zone in the West Bank, and that in some cases conditions had deteriorated since 1967.

The MRC used a number of indicators: infant mortality, nutritional status, anaemia, parasitic infections, and eye diseases. It noted that, while the occupation authorities set the recent infant mortality rate at 24 to 30 per 1,000 live births in the West Bank and Gaza, the Israeli Bureau of Statistics placed it at 70 per 1,000. The comparable rate in neighbouring Jordan was 55 per 1,000.

That infant mortality rates were unacceptably high was demonstrated by field studies in specific villages. In a 1986 study on the village of Biddu near Jerusalem, the MRC and the Birzeit Community Health Unit found an infant mortality rate of 49 per 1,000.

Biddu is a relatively developed village, and studies in other, poorer, villages showed worse conditions. A 1985 study of three villages in the Ramallah area revealed a rate of 61:1,000, and early results of studies in underdeveloped areas of Hebron and the Jordan Valley showed a rate of between 80 to 100 per 1,000. The MRC also pointed to evi-

dence of widespread malnutrition and anaemia among children in the occupied territories. Initial results of a study in the Hebron region showed that 40% of children suffered from malnutrition. A 1987 study in the village of Dyuk in the Jordan Valley revealed that 55% of girls and 34% of boys were undernourished, while 61% of mothers suffered from anaemia. This meant that wide sectors of the population were ill-equipped to ward off disease. Parasitic infections were also common among children, affecting between 40 and 60% of them, according to MRC data.

As for eye diseases, the St. John's Ophthalmic Hospital in Jerusalem revealed in a 1984 study that, among 9,548 people seen at the hospital, the rate of binocular blindness was 1.74% (eight times the figure in Britain), of sight impairment in one eye was 6.8%, and of trachoma was 28.4%. This high rate of eye infection was related to the absence of early diagnosis and appropriate treatment.

The MRC report also examined the doctor to patient ratio, noting that the number of doctors to patients was about 8 per 10,000 in 1986. However, the fact that nearly 280 doctors in the West Bank and Gaza were unemployed or underemployed meant that the real rate was closer to 6 doctors per 10,000 patients. The comparable rate in Jordan was about 22 doctors per 10,000 patients.

The studies also revealed a trend which probably owes its existence to traditional attitudes that attach more importance to the birth of male children than to female ones. In the Dyuk village study, appreciably more girls were undernourished than boys, while the Biddu study showed a 58:1,000 infant mortality rate for girls, compared to 41:1,000 for boys.

The MRC noted that lower income groups suffered worse health conditions than middle to upper groups. A study of admissions figures in one West Bank hospital showed that 79% of children admitted with cold-related illness were the children of labourers.

The MRC pointed out that conditions were much worse in the refugee camps and villages than in the cities, although nearly 60% of the population of the West Bank and Gaza lived in villages or refugee camps.

The MRC report also looked at the problems caused by the absence of a national health authority. These ranged from the weakness of primary health care (which, for example, meant that vaccination campaigns were uncoordinated), the unbalanced distribution of facilities and services, and lack of coordination between different health institutions and groups.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

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PROGRAMME ONE

16:00 Koran
16:30 Cartoons
17:15 Modern physics
17:35 Dumbo and his Son
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:15 Programme on world news
18:25 Programme on Islam
18:45 Programme on environment
19:10 Agricultural programme
19:45 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:25 Programme on population growth
22:25 Programme on expatriates
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Programme on expatriates (cont'd.)

PROGRAMME TWO

17:00 Les Mondes est Vous
19:00 News in French
19:15 Aujourd'hui en Jordanie
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Clarend
21:18 Campaign
22:00 News in English
22:30 Hunter: "Change Partners and Dance"

RADIO JORDAN

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07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsweek
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
11:00 Just a Minute
12:00 News Summary
12:05 30 Minute Theatre
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session Cont'd.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:15 Instruments
14:30 30 Minute Theatre
14:35 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instruments
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Top Talk
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary

WORLDNET

(At the American Cultural Centre)

06:00 America Today
11:00 Newsweek
12:00 Hour USA
13:00 America Today
14:00 On the New Frontier
14:30 National Gallery of Art Special
15:00 Worldnet Dialogue
16:00 Worldnet Dialogue
17:00 Discover St. Croix
17:30 Life in the Universe

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

07:00 Newsweek 07:30 Without Strings
07:45 Reflections 07:50 Financial News 08:00 World News 08:05 24 Hours News Summary 08:30 Newsweek 08:45 The World Today 09:00 Newsweek 09:30 Hitting the High Notes 10:00 World News 10:05 24 Hours News Summary 10:30 The Seven Ages of Shakespeare 10:45 Network UK 11:00 World News 11:05 Reflections 11:15 Health Matters 11:30 Beechoven 12:00 World News 12:05 British Press Review 12:15 The World Today 12:30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup 12:45 Sports Roundup 13:00 The Pop Science Programme 13:30 Plagiarism Progress 14:00 World News 14:05 News About Britain 14:15 Waveguide 14:25 Bookchoice 14:30 Citizens 15:00 Radio Newsweek 15:15 Multitrack 1: Top 20 15:45 Sports Roundup 16:00 World News 16:05 24 Hours News Summary 16:30 Network UK 16:45 Recording of the Week 17:00 Outlook, opening with 5-minute News 17:45 Without Strings 18:00 Radio Newsweek 18:15 A Jolly Good Show 19:00 World News 19:05 News About Britain 19:15 Omnibus 19:45 The World Today 20:00 World News 20:05 24 Hours News Summary 20:15 Citizens 20:45 Sports Roundup

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1341 & SW 7200, 9505, 11740, 11925 and 15210 Hz

07:00 News 07:10 Newsweek 07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Newsweek 08:30 VOA Morning 09:00 News 09:10 Newsweek 09:30 VOA Morning 10:00 News 10:10 Newsweek 10:30 Music USA 10:40 News 10:50 Focus 11:30 Special English News & Features 20:00 News 20:10 Newsweek 20:30 Magazine Show 21:00 News 21:10 Focus 21:30 Special English News & Features 22:00 News 22:10 Newsweek 22:30 Music USA 22:40 News & Editorial 23:15 Music USA Jazz 24:00 News 06:10 World Report

CULTURAL CENTRES & LIBRARIES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267
American Centre 644771
American Centre library 641520
British Council 6361478
French Cultural Centre 637009
Goswami Institute 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
Haya Arts Centre 665195
Husseini Youth City 6671816
Y.W.C.A. 641793
Y.W.M.A. 644251
Amman Municipal Library 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library 643553
Abdul Hamid Shuman Foundation 672541
Amman Municipal Library 637111

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science

Museum" Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.
Faidora Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (6th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabal Lweibdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lawn Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman. Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

PRAYER TIMES

06:16 Fajr
06:45 (Sunrise) Duha
12:42 Dhuh
16:24 'Asr
19:39 Maghrib
21:08 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic).

Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lweibdeh, Tel. 623541.
Evangelical Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, Tel. 661757. Sunday English mass (summer time 6 p.m. - winter time 5 p.m.).
Terremata Church (Roman Catholic). Jabal Lweibdeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622366.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, Tel. 625383, chaplain's residence, Tel. 611359.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751.
Amman International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani. Tel. 677524.
Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman, Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Saur 811295.
Rainbow Congregation, (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church) Interdenominational-ecumenical English Service: Saturday 8:30 p.m. Tel. 62605. Rev. Veli.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon) Tel. 815817, 821204.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

05:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
06:00 Agaba (RJ)
06:15 Jeddah (RJ)

06:30 Cairo (RJ)
06:40 Kuwait (RJ)
06:45 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
06:55 Muscat, Dhaka (RJ)
11:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:00 Larnaca, Damascus (RJ)
17:30 Montreal, New York (RJ)
18:10 Istanbul (RJ)
18:20 Athens (RJ)
18:55 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

12:30 Baghdad (IA)
13:20 Cairo (MS)
13:30 Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Doha (LF)
13:30 Moscow (SU)
14:30 Bucharest (RI)
14:35 Kuwait (RJ)
15:45 Tripoli (LN)
16:00 Riyadh (SV)
18:00 Dubai (EK)
18:05 Rome (AZ)
20:10 Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
20:15 Beirut (ME)
01:00 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

07:45 Agaba (RJ)
12:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:00 Riyadh (add) (RJ)
12:00 Kuwait (add) (RJ)
12:10 Athens (RJ)
12:30 Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)
12:45 Rome, Madrid (RJ)
13:00 Geneva, London (RJ)
13:15 Paris (RJ)
20:30 Dhahran (RJ)
20:30 Moscow (SU)
20:45 Istanbul, Doha (RJ)
21:10 Cairo (RJ)
21:15 Vienna, Miami, Los Angeles (RJ)
21:30 Abu Dhabi, Beirut (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

09:15 Beirut (MF)
14:00 Baghdad (IA)
14:05 Cairo (MS)
14:50 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)
15:00 Moscow (SU)
15:35 Kuwait (RJ)
15:50 Bucharest (RO)
16:45 Kuwait (LV)
17:40 Riyadh (SV)
18:35 Damascus (AZ)
19:00 Dubai (EK)

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

The temperature is expected to be around normal, with north-westerly moderate and at times freshening winds. In Agaba, the winds will be northerly moderate and calm seas.

Amman 21 / 31
Agaba 26 / 39
Djerdas 20 / 34
Jordan Valley 24 / 38

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 31.7, Agaba 39.2. Humidity readings: Amman 38 per cent, Agaba 29.2 per cent.

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Abdul Qadir Al Lala 896046
Dr. Khaled Ma'addi 743500
Dr. Walid Al Masri 675485
Dr. Isam Hawamdeh Ali 624830
Firas pharmacy 661912
Firdous pharmacy 770236
Al Asmaa pharmacy 670255
Nairookh pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

TAXIS

Ahram taxi 643911
Zaid taxi 644676
Khayyam taxi 641541
Cairo taxi 319157
Jordan taxi 623600
Kardi taxi 941308

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Directorate 661111
Civil Defence Immediate (0354)
Rescue (0354)
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Husseini Medical Centre 813013/22
Khadiji Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6
Akhil Maternity, J. Amn 640412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664174
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 662065
Al-Musaber Hospital 662729
The Islamic, Abdali 6647237
Al-Abil, Abdali 6641646
Irbid, Al-Muhajir 771010
Al-Badri, J. Ashrafieh 391611/15
Army, Marka 391611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 66224050
Aqaba Hospital 674152
ZARQA:
Zarga Govt. Hospital (09) 691021
Zarga National Hospital (09) 691021
Ibn Sina Hospital (09) 691021
Princess Basma Hospital (02) 275553
Greek Catholic Hospital (02) 272727
Ibn Al-Naseem Hospital (02) 247108
Aqaba:
Princess Laysa Hospital (03) 514111

GENERAL

Ministry of Information 64167
Ministry of the Interior 64371
Ministry of Tourism 64371
Driving Licences Dept. 64371
Foreigners and Expatriates Dept. 64371
Public Security Directorate 64371
Telephone Directory 64371
Communications 64371

Jordan, Greece to hold transport talks

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has approved the Jordanian-Greek Joint Land Transport Committee which will be held in Athens on Aug. 20.

Mansour Shammout, director of the Ministry's Land Transport Department will lead the delegation to the meeting.

Shammout, in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that the meeting is in response to a request on the part of Greece and is designed to boost bilateral cooperation in land transport.

The meeting will look into the possibility of allowing the two countries to offer exemptions from fees imposed on trucks transporting goods between the two countries, Shammout noted.

He said according to statistics, Jordanian lorries entering Greek territory exceed the number of Greek lorries crossing into Jordan.

"The meeting is also expected to discuss facilities enabling trucks from Jordan or Greece to carry goods from either country to a third country, and in this case a large number of Jordanian cold storage trucks will be able to transport Greek products to European markets," Shammout pointed out.

Greece and Jordan are linked by a 1983 agreement which provides for measures regulating and organising transit and transport operations between them.

The two countries have set up a joint transit and transport committee to follow up the implementation of this agreement and to remove all obstacles impeding its implementation.

Jordan marks Queen Zein's birthday

AMMAN (J.T.) — Tuesday marks the birthday of Her Majesty Queen Zein Al Sharaf, the Queen Mother.

On this joyous occasion, the citizens of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan extend their warmest wishes and congratulations to Her Majesty and proudly remember her untiring devotion and sacrifices to the Kingdom.

Her Majesty has embodied the greatest sense of motherhood by selflessly devoting her entire life to her eldest son His Majesty King Hussein, her sons Prince Mohammad and Prince Hassan, the Crown Prince, and her daughter, Her Highness Princess Basma.

The Queen Mother has also contributed to the strong women's movement in Jordan, leading the way as a staunch defender of women's rights.

May Her Majesty enjoy a pleasant birthday and the Jordanian people wish her many happy returns of the day.



H.M. Queen Zein Al Sharaf

Jordan to provide North Yemen with experts in social security

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is to provide North Yemen with experts in social security matters to organise training courses for Yemeni officials and help implement a sound social security system in that country, according to an agreement reached here Monday.

The agreement, reached in talks by Social Security Corporation (SSC) Director General Dr. Mahdi Farhan and his North Yemeni counterpart Mohammad Al Anasi, envisages implementation of an agreement under the

terms settled upon earlier with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Under the agreement, a new social security system will be launched in North Yemen covering all technical and administrative aspects of various firms and institutions in that country.

Anasi told Farhan that North Yemen would benefit from Jordan's experience in the field of social security applications. His visit to Jordan was said to be part of an endeavour to learn more about the country's system.

"North Yemen, established its social security department last month and hopes to overcome many obstacles and difficulties by learning from other countries' experiences," Anasi noted.

He said that North Yemen will dispatch officials to Jordan to acquaint them with the Jordanian so-

cial security system and Jordanian specialists will be welcome in North Yemen to organise seminars and train officials in the field of social security.

Irbid mayor thanks Rifai

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Monday received a cable from the mayor of Irbid, expressing Irbid residents' appreciation for the prime minister's directives, moral support and financial assistance during his visit to their city.

The cable expressed Irbid municipality's abiding by his directives in order to modernise the city and achieve its residents' aspirations.

Ministry overhauls educational system

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Ministry of Education has embarked on its 1988-1994 comprehensive development plan to implement resolutions passed by the First National Educational Conference held last September under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein, Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi announced Monday.

Loans from Arab funds

The plan calls for a general overhaul of the educational system in the Kingdom including the construction of suitable buildings at a cost of JD 309.3 million to serve as schools, thereby ending the country's dependence on rented buildings, the minister said in an exclusive statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The schools, which are to be built over the coming six years, will allow the ministry to give proper educational facilities to all citizens of learning age in urban, rural and badia regions of Jordan, Hindawi noted.

Indeed, he said, school buildings constitute the most basic element in the educational process, a concept which was endorsed by the National Educational Conference.

The minister said the comprehensive plan for school buildings provides solutions to deal with the expected annual increase in the number of students.

The ministry expects 262,000 new students to join government schools between 1988 and 1994, with 40,000, on average, registering per year. This is an annual increase of four per cent, Hindawi said.

The minister said rented school buildings now accommodate nearly 308,000 male and female students who learn in two daily shifts. "The new buildings will allow the country to rid itself of rented buildings and do away with the two-shift system."

Hindawi said the new buildings will contain laboratories, libraries, educational workshops, vocational training and sports facilities for the benefit of students.

According to the minister of education, convenient plots of land will be appropriated for the projected schools.

The ministry has also taken measures to overcome obstacles which might impede the purchase of land in urban regions.

The new plan, Hindawi said, also considered furnishing schools, which includes providing required equipment for teaching.

The minister said several school designs have been worked out over the past months, allowing the ministry the opportunity to choose the most suitable ones according to geography, the population density and needs of local inhabitants.

Hindawi said the school building plan has been divided into two essential programmes. The first, with an overall cost of JD 107 million, includes schools and their utilities now under construction. The second, with an overall cost of JD 202.3 million, includes the construction of integrated school buildings for the compulsory and secondary stages.

The minister said the Ministry of Education sought funds from different sources in order to implement its school-building programme and has paved the way for public and private participation in financing the plan.

He said the funds will come from the treasury according to the annual fiscal budgets, school contributions, taxes and contributions from the private sector, including individuals and institutions.

The ministry will encourage the construction of schools to be named after the benefactors and will exempt contributed funds from income tax. It will also encourage banks and major companies to build schools under similar understandings, Hindawi noted.

He said the Ministry of Education will establish a special school fund to raise contributions from local, Arab and foreign sources.

"The Ministry of Education sought and will seek loans from Arab funds, international financial institutions and friendly nations. It will also seek government approval for exempting the ministry from paying fees for school licences and other fees charged for supplying water and electricity to government schools," Hindawi noted.

According to the plan, a school building should be provided with the essential utilities and facilities in order to help the students to attain the maximum benefit from the educational system.

Along this line, the minister said, a secondary school should have laboratories for physics, chemistry, biology, computer courses, workshops for vocational and technical training, a library, a lecture room, an administrative unit, a warehouse, a canteen and sanitary facilities.

He said a compulsory school should also have laboratories for science lessons, workshops for vocational training, sports facilities, sanitary units and playgrounds.

In accordance with the plan, the minister said the first school building programme has been financed through loans from the Social Security Corporation (SSC), the annual fiscal budget and the U.S. government. This programme covered the ministry's original sixth and seventh projects and resulted in the construction of 232 secondary and compulsory schools, Hindawi said.

He said the SSC offered funds to build 80 schools. The general budget and the U.S. government financed the construction of 105 schools.

The Ministry of Education, he added, embarked on the implementation of the first programme at the beginning of 1988.

As for the second programme, the minister said it consists of two parts. The first envisages the construction of 513 new schools in various regions and the purchase



Thouqan Hindawi

of suitable land for these projects at the cost of JD 172.3 million; while the second calls for the construction of 1,042 classroom annexes and other utilities for 299 existing schools at the total cost of JD 30 million.

Hindawi explained that the plan envisages building 100 schools within the Greater Amman region at nearly JD 40 million, 55 schools in Zarqa Governorate at JD 18.5 million, 25 schools in Mafrqa at nearly JD 7 million, 37 schools in Irbid at nearly JD 6 million, six schools in Ramtha at a cost of JD 1.6 million, 20 schools in Bani Kinana district at an estimated cost of JD 2.3 million, five schools at Kura at a cost of JD 1.1 million, 15 schools in the northern Jordan Valley region at nearly JD 2 million, 13 schools in Ajloun district at nearly JD 1.7 million, 33 schools in Jerash district at nearly JD 4.8 million, 18 schools in the Balqa region at nearly JD 2.7 million, five schools in South Shuneh area at nearly JD 815,000, five schools in Deir Allah region at nearly JD 786,000, eight schools in Madaba area at nearly JD 1.4 million, five schools at Qasr region for nearly JD 556,000, 14 schools in Karak Governorate at an estimated cost of JD 2 million, eight schools in Ma'an Governorate at nearly JD 895,000 and eight schools in Aqaba region for nearly JD 1 million.

He said the plan provides for building secondary schools in various parts of the Kingdom with the Greater Amman region having the lion's share, a total of 29 schools.

He said in all, 750 laboratories, libraries and vocational training workshops will be built at the overall cost of JD 13.605 million.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

ROYAL DECREE: A Royal Decree was issued Monday endorsing salary scales and posts for different government departments during the 1988 fiscal year. The cabinet earlier endorsed the plan which among other things fixes the annual increment of non-classified civil servants between JD 2 and JD 5. Another Royal Decree issued Monday approves of an amendment to the bylaws governing judicial matters and the status of judges. The amendment fixes allowances given to regular judges at the rate of 70 per cent of the basic salary and 40 per cent for judges still under training.

CABINET MAKES APPOINTMENTS: The cabinet has appointed Dr. Munther Al Masri as the government's representative of the Executive Council of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation. Masri's appointment will be added to his post as the Ministry of Education's secretary general. The cabinet also announced its appointment of Hamed Abdullah Al Batoush as mayor of Taybeh in Karak governorate and approved of a set of appointments, posts, and salaries for the Civil Aviation Authority.

NEW AMBASSADORS: The cabinet has appointed Dr. Naser Al Bataineh as minister plenipotentiary representing Jordan in Saudi Arabia, Hussein Hammami as ambassador to the United States, Awwad Al Khalidi as ambassador to France and Shahabuddin Madi as ambassador at the Foreign Ministry. The cabinet announced the appointment of Issam Arida as the government's representative on the board of directors of Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily.

NIMER MEETS ENVOYS: Foreign Ministry Secretary General Nabih Al Nimer conferred separately in his office Monday with the ambassadors of Greece and Chile to Jordan. He reviewed with them Jordan's relations with the two countries.

BAU EXAMS START: Beirut Arab University (BAU) students Monday began their year-end examination session at the University of Jordan. Tawfiq Kreishan, president of the BAU's Alumni Club, said 5,000 students are taking the examinations here because of difficulties in Beirut due to the current situation there. The examination session, he said, is expected to last until Aug. 15.

JD 3M LOAN: The Social Security Corporation (SSC) has granted a JD 3 million loan to the Cities and Villages Development Bank (CVDB) to finance electrification projects in rural regions of Jordan as part of a programme carried out by the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA). The SSC has been investing large sums of its financial deposits in a number of Jordanian development projects. Investments in agricultural, industrial and housing schemes have helped to augment the SSC's deposits.

WOMEN'S SOCIETY: The Rural Women's Society of Mu'ab announced Monday that it has started producing honey from its bee farm which was set up with assistance from the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF). A society spokesman said 50 beehives have been set up on the farm, producing half a tonne of pure honey annually. He said special teams have been given the responsibility of marketing the product locally. He also said profits will be distributed to shareholders, with part going to the local women's union. NHF initiated the project in the Karak region with the aim of raising the standard of living for local families by increasing their income.

3 TENDERS AWARDED: Salt Municipality Monday awarded three tenders to local contractors at the total cost of JD 5,000 for the purchase of pesticides and garbage containers.

2 TRAINING COURSES: Two training courses on the use of computers in libraries and information centres opened at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) Monday. A total of 16 participants, from the private and public sectors, are taking part in the courses.

NORTH SHUNEH ELECTION: November 2 has been fixed as a date for holding municipal election in North Shuneh. District governor of North Shuneh in the Jordan Valley has been put in charge of the election committee.

COURSES OPEN IN MA'AN: Two courses in Arabic and sciences for teachers in the compulsory schools opened at Ma'an Monday. A group of 36 teachers are taking part in the courses.

RAJEB HEALTH CENTRE: A health centre in Rajeb near Ajloun is to be transformed into an integrated health centre for the benefit of the local inhabitants. This was announced by health director in Ajloun during a tour of Khirbet Al Wahadneh and Hashemieh districts close to Rajeb.

WHAT'S GOING ON

FILM

Film: "One of the Two Us." Goethe Institute at 8:00 p.m.

EXHIBITION

A calligraphy exhibition by Nidal Kamal Tabbal at the Royal Cultural Centre.



Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat Monday presents Kingdom's celebrations of the Great Arab Revolt a medal to a citizen who contributed to the (Petra photo)

Khleifat pledges support for clubs

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat said Monday that his ministry will do all it can to support youth clubs and provide every possible help to enable them to carry out their programmes.

Khleifat said that the ministry plans to provide expertise and qualified staff to help clubs promote their sports and youth programmes and will give its attention to the creation of clubs of Jordanian expatriates abroad.

The Great Arab Revolt the minister said, represents "a national awakening calling for unity among Arabs and therefore Jordan is greatly honoured to hold the standards of this revolt and endeavours to fulfil its objectives."

Khleifat paid tribute to the efforts exerted by the different committees in the private and public sectors towards the success of these celebrations.

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Khasawneh opens radio, TV course

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Information Hani Khasawneh Monday opened a training course on evaluating radio and television programmes and researching listeners' needs. The course was organised by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) and the Baghdad based centre for research into viewers' and listeners' requests.

In an address at the opening session, Khasawneh paid tribute to the efforts of Jordan Radio and Television Corporation for their cultural programmes which benefit the public sectors in the Kingdom.

The minister underlined the importance of the Radio and Television Training Centre in Amman, which was set up to promote skills of staff members

employed by the radio and television stations.

This training course, is the first attempt by the centre to offer high quality training to employees and to upgrade their performance and efficiency," he said.

"Plans have been made to transform this centre into a real training institute for staff needed in the country's information departments," Khasawneh added.

The minister paid tribute to UNESCO for its efforts in organising the course, which is attended by employees from three Arab countries.

The centre's director made a speech announcing the creation of a unit to handle researching the views of radio listeners and television viewers.

A UNESCO representative

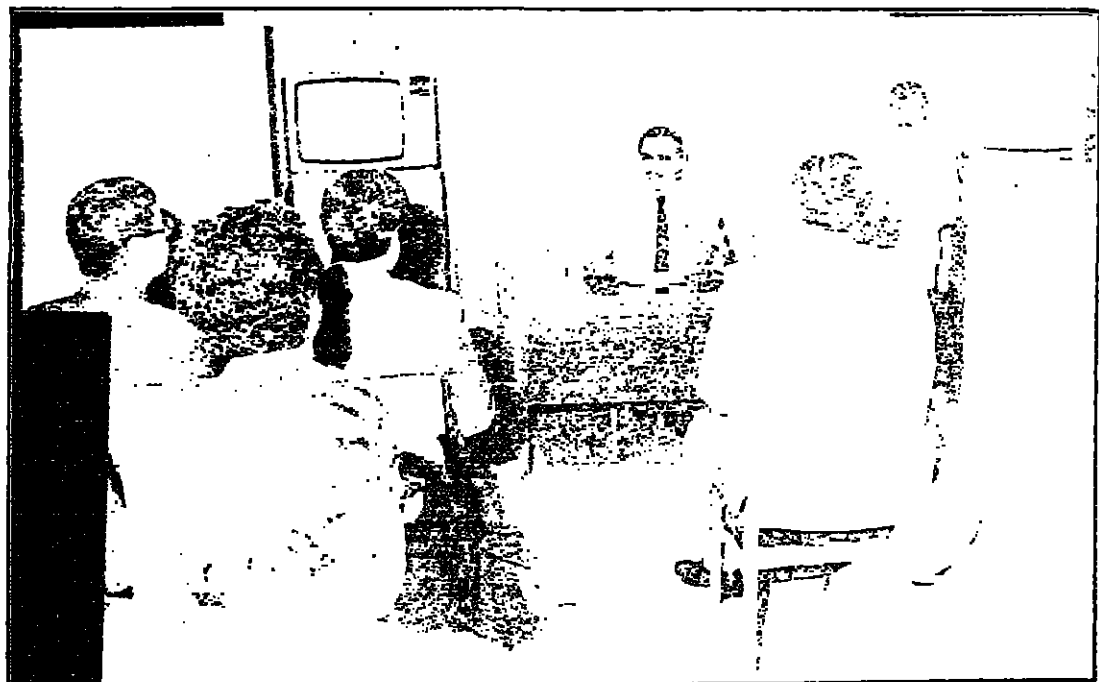
attending the opening session said the information research unit is the first of its kind in the Arab World and UNESCO will continue to provide it with support and assistance.

The director of the Baghdad centre said the research unit was essential for developing the quality of radio and television stations.

Modernising and developing these programmes, he said, are a requirement to combat the Zionist information propaganda and to serve the Arab Nation's cause.

A total of 19 employees from Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are taking part in the 10-day training course.

The Ministry of Information's secretary general and the director of the Jordan News Agency, Petra, were among those attending the opening session.



Minister of Information Hani Khasawneh Monday opens a training course on evaluating radio and television programmes (Petra photo)

Zarqa landlords urged to connect buildings to new sewerage system

ZARQA (Petra) — Zarqa Governor Eid Al Qatameh has called on landlords and owners of buildings in the Governorate of Zarqa to have their homes and buildings connected to the city's recently completed sewerage system.

Qatameh toured districts in Zarqa and said the public safety committee in the city plans to deal with all matters related to public safety and will also carry out regular inspection of water resources, testing water in the

Zarqa River to determine its quality for use in irrigation projects.

Qatameh said strict control will be imposed along the Zarqa River to prohibit dumping of wastewater and other factory waste.

Last January Qatameh was quoted by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, as saying that nearly 90 per cent of the Zarqa River pollution had been brought under control thanks to the Khirbet Al Samra wastewater treatment plant and continuous moni-

toring of pollution by the department of environment.

He said the wastewater flowing into the Zarqa River at a rate of 2,000 cubic metres per day was being treated continually, with some of the treated water being used for irrigation purposes.

Qatameh said the government had allocated JD 23 million for major agricultural projects in Zarqa River Basin, depending largely on water from the river flowing into the reservoir behind the King Talat Dam.

Jordan Times

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Editor-in-Chief:

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Shamir must learn geography

ISRAELI Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was quoted Monday as saying that Jordan's decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank has dealt a blow to the idea of a united Palestinian nation. Well, well, is Mr. Shamir illiterate in geography? Isn't Palestine, the homeland of the Palestinian people, united, albeit under Israeli occupation? Or, does Mr. Shamir have another Palestine in mind?

Mr. Shamir and his colleagues in the Israeli government ought to take a break and reassess their options. It will not be hard to realise that they must come to terms with accepting the reality of the struggle of the people under their occupation and with the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Jordan has and will continue to play its role towards bringing comprehensive and lasting peace to the region. The Jordanian leadership has rallied the international community in support of an international peace conference, but Israel and its superpower ally have constantly turned their backs to all ideas and proposals for peace based on international law and legitimacy. Mr. Shamir should not worry about the unity of Jordan and the West Bank; once he gives up his ambitions of a "greater Israel" and recognises the rights of the Palestinians in their homeland, the free Palestinians will decide their own future and fate.

Shamir need not worry about the future of a united Palestinian, or Arab nation. He and his colleagues should worry about peace, their own peace. Until they recognise the legitimate rights of the Palestinians, stones will continue to descend on their heads, en masse.

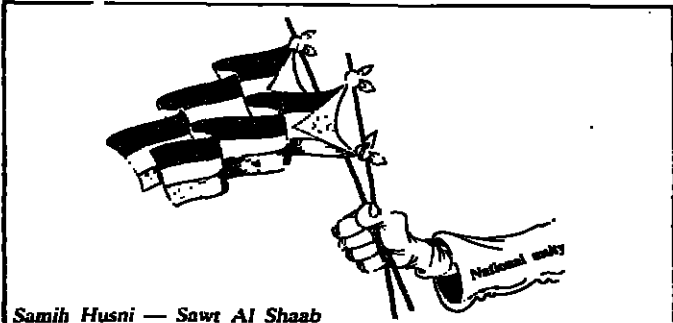
ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: One more step

KING Hussein announced a severing of legal ties with the West Bank as a sign of his respect to the wishes of the PLO and his acceptance of the Rabat and Fez Arab summit conferences. Such action, although it causes distress in our hearts following 38 years of unity between the two banks of Jordan, was inevitable. The Jordanian move was in response to the desires of Arab countries in general and the PLO in particular, which considers it as one more step towards supporting the national Palestinian endeavours and bolstering the Palestinian identity. By taking this step, Jordan is clearly respecting the wishes of the Palestinian people. Although this step affects the general framework of the relationship, it can by no means damage the essence of the real unity between the two banks and can by no means affect Jordan's support of the Palestinians in their just cause. Unity between the people of both banks was not born, nor was it reared through legal and administrative links, but rather through blood, common aspirations and destiny. This unity will remain as strong as ever. Therefore, Jordan will continue to shoulder its responsibilities towards the Palestinians in the face of Israel's measures and occupation.

Al Dustour: The latest measure

KING Hussein Sunday explained Jordan's latest measures vis-a-vis the occupied Arab territories and the termination of the five year development plan. Jordan, which is firmly committed to the principles and goals of the Great Arab Revolt, will remain committed to the Palestine cause and to supporting the Palestinians in their endeavours for freedom and liberation. King Hussein has over the past years reaffirmed Jordan's position; and has in word and deed backed all moves designed to enable the Palestinians to regain their rights. After 38 years of unity, Jordan found that it has to take another step in this direction since it responds favourably to the wishes and desires of the Arab countries and the Palestine Liberation Organisation. The latest measure was also in response to the Palestinian people's wish to have a separate Palestinian identity that can confront the practices of the Israeli occupation rule. Severing legal and administrative ties with the West Bank displays Jordan's response to the requirements of the Arab World in support of the Palestinians, but it can by no means signal Jordan's shirking of its responsibilities.



Samih Husni — Sawt Al Shaab

Sawt Al Shaab: Removing all doubts

KING Hussein has made it clear that the dissolution of Parliament and the termination of the five year development plan for the occupied lands can by no means end Jordan's national commitments nor can this affect in any way the rights of the Jordanian citizens of Palestinian origin. What Jordan decided on was clearly in response to the desires of the Arab countries and aims to enhance the PLO's position in its endeavours world wide to regain the rights of the Palestinian people. Jordan severed its administrative and legal ties with the West Bank in response to the Arab summit resolutions which regarded the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Therefore, the Jordanian move should be regarded as removing any duplicity in Amman's position, and any dual responsibility with the PLO towards the Palestinians. Although the decision was painful, Jordan considers it to be inevitable in view of the Arab World's desire to see the Palestinians representing themselves and seeking liberation from Israeli rule under their own separate identity.

Corruption: Hindrance to growth and change

By David Osterfeld

The following is part one of an article on the effect of corruption in Third World countries on development. The second part appears tomorrow. The writer is an associate professor of political science at Saint Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Indiana, USA. He has authored a book entitled *Freedom, Society and the State*. This article is reprinted from the Washington-based *Journal of Economic Growth*.

REVELATIONS about Somoza in Nicaragua, Duvalier in Haiti, Noriega in Panama, and Marcos in the Philippines have generated numerous commentaries about corruption in the Third World. These commentaries have generally been long on righteous indignation but short on analysis. Clearly, corruption has a pejorative connotation. Most observers "uncritically assume that the presence of corruption is an important hindrance to economic growth and progressive social change."

Where this assumption is not made, where it is recognised that corruption may at times have beneficial consequences, what follows is usually little more than a laundry list of activities indicating those having beneficial and those having detrimental results. Seldom is any attempt made to ascertain why certain corrupt acts may have beneficial consequences, while others are clearly harmful. For instance, the alleged involvement of Panama's Noriega in the drug trade is a case of corruption in all its wickedness, where society is clearly hurt. However, a Peruvian street vendor's bribing of a low-level government official in order to obtain a licence to sell his wares, while also a corrupt act, makes a positive contribution to society.

A set of general principles can be established to decide what separates "corrupt but beneficial" activities from those activities that are "corrupt but perverse." In this way, the Marcoses, Duvaliers and Noriegas of this world can be distinguished from the humble street vendors in both the effect of their corruption on the economy and society as a whole, and also in the morality of their actions. Limits on freedom, those that restrict peoples' choices, are morally repugnant. This article shows that certain kinds of so-called "corruption" are a direct response to government intervention which restricts freedom and socially beneficial exchange. And, because these actions effectively negate government encroachment on freedom, they move the economy closer to a free market and, therefore, have a positive effect on economic growth and development.

Corruption defined

Numerous attempts have been made to define corruption but none has met with general acceptance. Perhaps a fruitful approach

would be to begin with what political corruption is not. Generally speaking, a "good citizen" is one who obeys the laws and policies of the government; the "good public official" is one who implements the laws and policies of the government rather than his own personal interests, i.e., one who serves others, hence the term "public servant." Political corruption can be defined in terms of the obverse of these. There are two distinct categories of corruption: One involves private individuals, or those "outside government," and the other involves public officials, or those "inside government." Any definition of corruption must take this into account. For if it is corrupt to offer a bribe, then it must be equally corrupt to accept one. While these categories are closely related there is no necessary identity between them. For example, a public official who embezzles would be corrupt regardless of whether there was any involvement by a private individual. Similarly, a private individual who offered a bribe would be corrupt even if his offer were rejected by the public official.

If the foregoing is correct, then a definition of corruption must include within its purview those inside as well as outside government. Political corruption may, therefore, be tentatively defined as follows:

1. Activities by individuals outside government which bestow benefits on a public official in an attempt to induce him to permit them to (a) evade existing laws or policies and/or (b) obtain a change in the laws or policies, either enactment or repeal, which would redound to their direct and immediate benefit.

2. Activities of those inside government to obtain benefits for themselves, families and friends by using their positions to (a) solicit or accept benefits from private individuals in exchange for the bestowal of direct and immediate benefits upon those individuals, or (b) to enact or repeal laws or policies the immediate effect of which would be to directly benefit themselves.

This definition may seem overly cumbersome and some explanation is in order. Although corruption is generally viewed as both immoral and illegal, this particular definition has carefully avoided references to either. "Immoral can and does have a

variety of meanings. What is immoral for some may not be so for others. This is especially true when dealing with different cultures and traditions. If corruption is defined so as to require moral censure, then the crossing of cultural boundaries would almost immediately ensue one in a hopeless web of ad hoc rationalisations in order to explain why public officials who accept bribes or engage in nepotism are corrupt, and thus subject to censure, in some societies but not in others. Since the purpose of this essay is to examine the economic effects of corruption, its morality, while an important issue, is not a good measure for the purposes of this investigation.

The ambiguity of laws

Legality has the merit of precision. But this precision is purchased at a heavy price. For if corruption is defined solely in terms of legality, the result is that the individual or group in control of the government, and thus able to make the laws and policies for the society, would be able to grant itself the legal right to engage in activities that are commonly regarded as corrupt. But because they would be "legal" they would fall outside the parameters established by the definition. For example, the ruler or lawmaker could simply rule that the entire wealth of the country belonged to him. So long as the official legal canons were observed, such an act of expropriation, even though probably unanimously regarded as corrupt, would nevertheless not be so according to the legal definition.

This type of legal expropriation is quite common. Graft is seldom as blatant as that of the nineteenth century Argentinian dictator, Rosas, who allegedly seized the fortunes of his enemies and distributed them to his friends and supporters saying, "This belongs to you." Today expropriation is more commonly accomplished by legal subterfuge. Examples of such actions span the globe and the decades. In Mexico, following the 1910 Revolution, the government began implementing a series of reforms which entailed the nationalisation of all basic industries and the reappropriation of the land into collective units. In the Soviet Union, the November, 1917, "Declaration of the Rights of the Toiling and Exploited People" abolished all private land holdings. In Nazi Germany, the Nuremberg Laws of 1935 and the thirteen supplementary decrees, reduced Jews from the status of citizens to that of subjects, permitting the wholesale expropriation of their property and even-

tually their extermination. In 1951, less than two years after Mao Zedong's rise to power in China, landlords were ruthlessly expropriated under the Agrarian Reform Act. According to the new law, "war criminals, traitors, bureaucratic capitalists, and counter-revolutionaries" had their property confiscated and were subject to punishment ranging from three years in prison to death. In 1967, the government of Tanzania, under the authority of the Arusha Declaration, "socialised" all industries and financial establishments. And, of course, South African blacks are victims of all sorts of legal barriers.

Graft can also take place by less direct legal means, such as granting monopolistic positions to businesses that happen to be owned by the ruling elite, by enacting subsidies, tariff barriers and licensing restrictions. All of these practices were common in the Philippines under Marcos. Another means for obtaining wealth, used extensively by African governments but not confined to that continent, is the establishment of government marketing boards as the sole purchaser of agricultural produce from local farmers.

By purchasing produce at artificially low prices and then selling it at world market levels the boards are legal vehicles for channeling large sums of money into the pockets of the rulers. Another method, used in Cuba, is for the government to establish maximum prices that are well below a product's cost of production, thereby driving firms into bankruptcy. The government then assumes operation of the business. While probably every-one would regard the foregoing as corrupt, all would be excluded by a definition of corruption solely in terms of legality.

Opportunity costs and the value of government services

Another way of viewing the problem is to define corruption quantitatively, i.e., in terms of its returns. Those in charge of government "may make use of their powers to increase their own income above and beyond that which is necessary to provide the government services which justify the existence of government." Corruption exists when the ruler takes "for himself an income which is larger than the opportunity cost for his services." This approach strikes me as misdirected if not simply mistaken.

The implicit analogy between government and the market does not hold. The size of the returns could be an accurate measure of corruption only if one could de-

termine the value of economic output since the monetary units do have some meaning. But that meaning derives from the ability to calculate the opportunity costs of the factors of production. However, opportunity costs can only be determined when there are alternative possibilities for employment. This is the case in a market economy when entrepreneurs bid for factors.

One of the distinguishing characteristics of government, however, is precisely the absence of alternatives in the economic sense. There may be elections but there can be only one government at any time. Elections, coups and wars may replace a particular regime by a new one. But the new regime becomes the new sole supplier of government services. Those dissatisfied with these services cannot turn to alternative suppliers as those dissatisfied with the services they receive in a particular restaurant can patronise another one.

This creates an insurmountable difficulty in ascertaining the value of government services. The value of government services cannot be measured by the proceeds from total sales because government does not usually sell its services and, even if it did, its monopolistic position would seriously distort its price. Similarly, its value cannot be determined by summing the values of its component factors since values are determined by opportunity costs which, in the absence of alternatives, cannot be ascertained. The solution to this approach would require not merely the existence of competitive political parties which are generally confined to the industrialised West, but "competitive government," which is a contradiction in terms. Thus, the absence, in fact the impossibility, of a competitive market in the government arena, i.e., the absence of alternative, co-existing suppliers, makes the measurement of government "output" impossible.

These difficulties in defining corruption can be avoided by viewing it as an activity rather than something characterised by its morality, legality, or the size of its returns.

Economic growth and corruption

It is now beyond dispute that the free market is an indispensable agent for economic development. The evidence on the matter is quite clear. One need only compare the standard of living of the average citizen in the United States or Western Europe to that in the Soviet Union or Eastern Europe; that of South Korea,

Hong Kong, Singapore or Taiwan to North Korea, Mainland China, Vietnam or Kampuchea; that of the Cote d'Ivoire to Ghana. The correlation is too strong to be mere coincidence. In every case the more market oriented economies have outperformed the less market oriented economies by wide margins. It is certainly noteworthy that the introduction of interventionist and socialist measures has been inevitably followed by dramatic economic deterioration.

Free exchange produces economic development in two distinct ways: (a) by expanding physical output and (b) by increasing the value of that output. The further moves down the spectrum from free exchange to the absence of economic development are adversely affected. It follows that those corrupt acts that move the economy in a free market direction are economically beneficial; those that inhibit the operation of the market are economically detrimental.

The former may be termed expansive corruption since it expands opportunities for socially beneficial exchange. It entails increased competition and market flexibility. The result is that the quantity of goods produced expands and their quality improves. It is, in short, characterised by the expansion of the overall wealth of the society. Moreover, expansive corruption is morally defensible since its goal is to defend one's own property as well as one's right to engage in voluntary activities. Corrupt acts that inhibit economic freedom may be termed restrictive corruption since they reduce opportunities for socially beneficial exchange. These entail reduced competition and increased market rigidities. The quantity of the goods produced, therefore, declines and their quality deteriorates. Restrictive corruption is an immoral, offensive act since it constitutes an assault on the property of others as well as their right to engage in voluntary activities.

This rather simple specification of corruption requires amplification. The definition of corruption distinguished between the activities of private, and public individuals, or between those "outside government" and those "inside government." This results in two categories of corruption: (1) Public-Sector Corruption, or corrupt activities which are carried on solely by public officials, acting alone or in cooperation with other officials, and (2) Dual-Sector Corruption, which entails the cooperation of individuals from both sectors.

Septuagenarian gambler keeps Lebanon guessing

By John Fullerton
Reuters

EHDEN, Lebanon — Every evening, a warlord sits down at a green baize table in his mountain eyrie in north Lebanon and plays a mean hand of poker with his trusted aides.

At 78, Suleiman Franjeh is hard to beat. Expressionless, secretive and combative, the bespectacled Maronite Christian and former Lebanese president is a risk-taker with little taste for compromise.

With characteristic inscrutability, he is facing what could be the toughest test of his career: an election, due by September, which may help to end 13 years of civil war or fan the embers of sectarian and ideological enmity.

"I haven't decided yet, but the odds are 51 per cent I will run for the presidency. I am still considering the matter, but there is much hope I will stand," he told Reuters.

There seems little doubt that if Franjeh does stand for parliament's election of a new Lebanese president, he will need the backing of his friend Syrian President Hafez al Assad and the 25,000 Syrian troops deployed in Lebanon.

Does Damascus want Franjeh?

One high-level political source in Lebanon says Syria sought a compromise candidate, wanting to avoid renewed communal violence at a time when Assad is trying to mend fences with Washington.

This may rule out Franjeh as Syria's choice. He is a maverick among Lebanon's Maronites, the country's second largest confessional community after the Shi'ite Muslims.

Born to rule?

Many Maronites see themselves as an elite born to rule.

They take pride in their links with the West and are jealous of political prerogatives enshrined in a 1943 national covenant.

For many of Franjeh's co-religionists, Syria is the arch-enemy — an authoritarian state bent on stripping Maronite powers, imposing an Arab nationalist identity on the country and ending civil war by coercing Lebanese to accept a pax Syria.

His detractors would regard his nomination as a sign that attempts by Washington and Damascus to reach a tacit understanding over the presidential election had collapsed.

"The (Christian) Lebanese Forces (militia) would regard Franjeh's nomination as a challenge, as a declaration of war," said one political analyst.

For his part, Franjeh sees the Lebanese forces, who control much of east Beirut and its mountain hinterland, as agents of Israel and its American allies.

"If Franjeh is the next president, we're basically talking about a tribal settling of scores by a feudal lord from north Lebanon, who would employ the levers of state and manipulate international competition to his advantage," the analyst said.

Yet Franjeh is no mere Syrian stooge. He is a Maronite nationalist who has strongly resisted attempts, even at Syrian prompting, to dilute Maronite power.

While not unwilling to form a tactical alliance with Syria's Baathist, Socialist and Communist allies in Lebanon, he nevertheless detests ideologies of the left.

Perhaps his greatest electoral disadvantage is his previous term of office from 1970-1976, the period which spawned the civil war. In the minds of some Lebanese, the name of Franjeh is associated with the end of a stable and prosperous way of life.

Clan vs. clan

In 1975-6, Franjeh allied him-

self with Christian Falangist leader Pierre Gemayel, a Maronite inspired by the 1936 Berlin Olympics to dress his gunmen in brown shirts and introduce the stiff, Nazi-style salute to Lebanon.

But Christian militant followers of Bashir Gemayel, Pierre's son and younger brother of current president Amin Gemayel, raided Ehdén in 1978 and killed Franjeh's eldest son, Tony, his wife and their children.

The clanish disputes which still beset Lebanon's Maronite community can be traced back to that northern bloodbath.

Bashir himself was assassinated in 1982 when he was about to assume the presidency, and one of his lieutenants, Samir Geagea, now heads the Lebanese forces militia.

Franjeh swore revenge and, with Syrian help, drove Gemayel's supporters from the north.

The friendship with Assad goes back to 1957, when Franjeh sought refuge in Syria after a gunfight with another northern clan in a village church.

Franjeh sees Syrian involvement in Lebanon as benign. "I wish the Lebanese head of state, whoever he may be, is as keen about the interests of this country as President Assad," he said.

What would Franjeh seek to achieve if he became president with Syrian backing?

"Two years ago, President Assad told me: 'The situation in Lebanon is leading to destruction and cannot be checked with resources at your country's disposal. I need a signal from the legitimate authorities requesting us to put an end to events. I have asked for this signal at least 10 times but without any response'."

Should Syria's presence in west Beirut, the north and east Lebanon's Bekaa Valley be extended to all the country?

"It should be applied to the whole of Lebanon," Franjeh replied.

Mine threat in the Gulf is far from over

By Richard Pyle
The Associated Press

ABOARD USS CONQUEST

This old U.S. navy mine sweeper and five others like it may remain in the Gulf until an estimated "couple of hundred" mines still lurking in the waters are found and destroyed, according to U.S. officials.

While a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war would probably keep fresh mines from being laid, those already deployed could pose a danger to shipping for years to come unless cleaned up.

The task falls to ships like the creaky, 800-ton Conquest, whose crew works these days in 54-centigrade deck temperatures, using a yellow submersible robot called Sea Rover to locate mines, and trailing gear to cut the cables that moor them to the seabed.

When a submerged mine shows up on the ship's sonar screen, navy divers are guided to the spot and attach explosives, which are then detonated by time fuse or remote control. Captain Jim Miller, "commander" of the American mine-sweeping force, declined to predict how long the tedious and dangerous job of clearing the Gulf might require.

"But we're not going to do it in a week or two weeks," he said in an interview. "It's going to take a lot longer than that."

Miller said this could mean some or all of the six U.S. mine sweepers in the Gulf might be excluded from a force cutback promised by U.S. officials when and if Tehran and Baghdad formally agree a truce in their nearly 8-year-old war.

Iran, which is blamed for laying most of the mines in the Gulf, announced July 18 that it would join Iraq in accepting the U.N. Security Council's call for a ceasefire.

The wooden-hulled U.S.

mine sweepers, all built in the early 1950s but updated for Gulf duty with modern sonar, navigation and mine-hunting gear, comprise about a third of the U.S. naval force now in the Gulf.

Options

Their "mothership" is the amphibious landing ship Duluth, which also carries a ready reaction force of about 400 Marines and six helicopters.

U.S. military sources in Washington say it is possible to the six aging mine sweepers would be turned over to any Arab Gulf states that wanted them, rather than returned to the United States.

The navy has 15 other mine sweepers of similar vintage, and is building 31 new, state-of-the-art ships for hunting mines. Miller said he had "no first hand knowledge" of such a plan, but noted that scores of former U.S. warships are sailing with other navies around the world. "My old mine sweeper and my old destroyer are now part of the Spanish navy," he said.

Open-ended task

He conceded that it could take years before the Gulf is free of mines, if ever. Mines laid in the North Sea during World War II were still being recovered as recently as 1980, he said.

The mine threat played a major part in prompting the naval force buildup by the United States and five European navies in the Gulf a year ago.

In addition to the six U.S. craft, which arrived last November, Britain, France, Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands sent anti-mine forces to the Gulf. The Soviet Union also has ships capable of mine-sweeping in the waterway. European forces were later

cut back, and two remaining Belgian and Dutch mine-hunters recently were combined with three British ships in a joint mine countermeasures fleet under royal navy command.

U.S. navy records indicate at least 10 vessels have hit mines in the Gulf since the Soviet tanker Marshal Chukov was damaged off Kuwait May 16, 1987.

Among later victims were the U.S. flagged Kuwaiti super-tanker Bridgeton, the American missile frigate Samuel B. Roberts, an offshore supply vessel sunk with six killed and an ocean survey ship with four lost.

After the Samuel B. Roberts narrowly escaped destruction by a mine in the central Gulf April 14, U.S. searchers found three more mines in those waters, now known as the "Shali Allium mine danger area."

Officers said all were clean of marine growth, indicating they were newly laid, and one bore the letters "USA" scrawled in white paint. The mines, of a 1908 Russian type, were identical with those found aboard the captured Iranian minelayer Iran Ajr last September, they said.

Overall some 80 mines have been found in the past year, according to available records. Miller said "everybody has found some." The U.S. navy found 32 the latest in May. The British and French, each have found more than a dozen.

Officers say the overwhelming U.S. edge means only that American sweepers have operated in the biggest minefields. Miller said the estimated "couple of hundred" mines still in the Gulf are concentrated in certain areas, including waters just south of Iraq and a "mine danger area" near Iranian-held Buzi Island in the northern Gulf.

Ibn Ali reshuffles party ranks

TUNIS (R) — President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali continued a shake-up of the government and the leadership of the ruling party by naming a political bureau including only two figures strongly linked to ousted head of state Habib Bourguiba.

He also halved the size of the bureau from 12 members to six. The two, nominated after the close on Sunday of the first party congress since Bourguiba was removed from office nearly nine months ago, are Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche, who has the new job of party vice-president, and Central Bank Governor Ismail Khelil.

Khelil, who became a political bureau member after the last congress in 1986, was dropped last December when Ibn Ali reshuffled the leadership of the Constitutional Democratic Assembly, formerly the Destourian Socialist Party.

Abdul Rahim Zouari, 44, who like Ibn Ali worked at one stage at the Interior Ministry, takes Baccouche's place as party secretary general, the official media said Monday.

Minister of State for the Interior Habib Ammar, another long-serving figure at the Interior Ministry which Ibn Ali headed



Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali

from 1986 to 1987, remains a member of the bureau.

Foreign Minister Abdul Hamid Escheikh and Abdullah Kallel, a minister at the presidency responsible for defence, are two new members of the bureau. Kallel becomes party treasurer.

The six dropped from the bureau include ex-Foreign Minister Mahmoud Mestiri, former Minister of State for Justice Shalhedine Baly and former party director Hamed Karoui, who was named justice minister last week.

Earlier Sunday, Ibn Ali appointed two-thirds of the party's 200-strong Central Committee, enlarged from 90, imposing his personal stamp on a party which Bourguiba dominated for more than half a century.

Bourguiba, 85, was declared senile and forcibly removed from power by Ibn Ali last November.

Morocco mends diplomatic fences

RABAT (R) — Morocco is mending diplomatic fences after apparently abandoning a policy of cutting ties with countries supporting the Polisario movement in the Western Sahara, diplomats said.

Its rapprochement with neighbouring Algeria in May which ended an 11-year rift over the Sahara conflict meant that the boycott policy had been finally dropped, they said.

Morocco's control of the Western Sahara, a vast mineral-rich desert, has not weakened despite more than a decade of bitter warfare with the Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas in the former Spanish colony.

But the use of the diplomatic weapon of severing ties with only a few countries had failed to isolate Polisario or its self-styled Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR), the diplomats said.

SADR is now recognised by 71 countries, most of them with no diplomatic ties with Morocco, as well as the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

Morocco quit the OAU when it admitted the SADR as a member in November 1984.

No West European country has so far recognised SADR, nor has any country formally accepted Moroccan sovereignty over the

disputed territory which Rabat administers under a 1975 accord with Spain.

"Now that Morocco is friends again with Algeria, there is logically no reason why it should quarrel with any one recognising SADR," one diplomat said.

Morocco severed ties with Algeria in March 1976 for backing the Polisario which relies heavily on Algerian military, diplomatic and financial support.

The diplomats said further evidence of Morocco's new policy was its decision last week to resume diplomatic ties with Yugoslavia, severed over Belgrade's recognition of the SADR in 1984.

They expected Morocco to normalise relations with India, the last major country to recognise the SADR in October 1985 but said the policy change did not necessarily mean that Morocco was about to return to the OAU, which has pooled efforts with the United Nations to settle the dispute through a referendum.

"Morocco is no doubt keen to get back into the OAU but the reason why it pulled out in the first place still exists. We have to wait and see," a diplomat said.

There have been few reports in the Algerian media of fighting in the region since the Algerian-Moroccan reconciliation.



Amin Gemayel

Gemayel upbeat on Lebanon's 'positive course'

BEIRUT (AP) — President Amin Gemayel said Monday Lebanon "has begun moving in a positive course" to end its 13-year-old civil war.

In what he called his last speech as his six-year term in office drew towards its end, Gemayel also urged the regular army to close ranks against "the divisive winds of sectarianism and politics."

"You have a major role to play in shaping Lebanon's destiny," Gemayel said, addressing the commanding generals of the country's 42,000-man army.

His 15-minute speech was made on Army Day at the Defence Ministry compound in suburban Yarz, eight kilometres east of Beirut.

"The day will come when the army will reestablish government authority over the entire Lebanese soil and overrule various militias and foreign armies," Gemayel added.

His assertion suffered a sudden jolt when a pair of Israeli jet fighters crashed the sound barrier overhead, sending sonic booms reverberating across Beirut as the spoke.

Israel, which controls a self-proclaimed "security zone" along its northern flank in South Lebanon, regularly patrols Lebanese airspace.

The 45-year-old Gemayel did not elaborate. But his remark appeared to allude to diplomatic efforts by the United States and Syria to ensure a smooth transition and bring about political reforms that would give Muslims an equal share of power.

Gemayel conceded that "salvation has eluded us during my six bitter years in power. But we have managed to prevent the collapse of constitutional institutions and thus kept the hope for salvation alive."

The civil war, which claimed more than 130,000 lives since 1975, has eroded the authority of the central government and army. Most of Lebanon's 10,452-square-kilometre territory is under the reign of sectarian militias or foreign armies.

Gemayel's term expires Sept. 23. Parliament is expected to hold a session sometime this month to elect a successor.

Lebanon's Parliamentary Speaker Hussein Hussein met Syrian President Hafez Al Assad Sunday in Damascus to discuss the presidential elections. Syrian News Agency SANA said.

It quoted Assad as saying during the meeting that Syria would do all it could to restore stability and unity to the country.

Qatar, Soviet Union establish formal ties

DOHA (Agencies) — The State of Qatar and the Soviet Union established diplomatic ties Monday, the Qatari News Agency (QNA) said.

A joint statement released in Doha and Moscow said the two countries decided to have relations at ambassadorial level to help foster international cooperation and development of world peace.

The statement, distributed here by QNA, said the two countries "wished to strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation."

They expressed readiness to develop their bilateral ties in accordance with the U.N. Charter on basis of equality, mutual respect and respect for each other's territorial integrity and internal affairs, the statement said.

Qatar established diplomatic ties with China July 9.

The moves come with a background of ruffled ties between Qatar and the United States. Washington lodged a formal protest with Doha in June over its refusal to hand over U.S.-made Stinger missiles it bought on the black market.

U.S. administration officials last week were reported as saying Washington will not entertain any proposals from Qatar to buy weapons until Doha agreed to return the dozen Stingers.

Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, have long held back on establishment of diplomatic ties with the communist states unlike other Gulf states such as Kuwait, which instituted such ties as soon as it gained independence in the early 1960s and Oman and the United Arab Emirates, which established ties with the Soviet Union in the early 1980s.

These six countries form the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), an economic and security alliance that coordinates on foreign policy.

All member states of the GCC have traditionally depended on the United States and Western nations for their arms supplies.

The existence of the Stinger missiles in Qatar was first disclosed when Doha displayed them in a military parade last March. It refused to say where it acquired them.

The United States sells the sophisticated missiles only to Bahrain among Arab states.

Soviet diplomats have recently visited Saudi Arabia and Bahrain for talks with senior officials but no steps towards establishing diplomatic ties were announced.

Gulf states have shown their willingness to seek arms sources other than the United States, where the pro-Israeli lobby in Congress opposes most weapons sales to Arab countries.

Moscow last month sold Kuwait 245 armoured personnel carriers and Saudi Arabia has made arms deals with China and Britain.

A U.S. State Department official said Qatar, like other Gulf Arab states, felt threatened by Iran. "All of them are buying as many missiles as they can get their hands on," the official said.

Few changes in new N. Yemeni cabinet

SANAA (R) — North Yemen has announced a new government weeks following President Ali Abdullah Saleh's overwhelming reelection by the country's new parliament.

Diplomats said the cabinet, announced late Sunday evening on Sanaa Television, was marked by continuity, with only a few minor portfolios changed.

"Some people were expecting more far reaching changes, but they didn't happen," said one diplomat.

Diplomats said a recent programme of political reform, including the July 5 election of the country's first parliament, have helped to cement Saleh's power.

The president was reelected by the parliament soon after it held

its first session and the cabinet subsequently submitted its resignation.

On Thursday Saleh gave Prime Minister Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani a mandate to form the new cabinet.

Diplomats said the cabinet contained a few technical changes that seemed mostly aimed at improving administration.

The cabinet contains a handful of new faces, diplomats said, while other ministers have been reshuffled to take on new portfolios.

Responsibility for transport was separated from communications to be combined with public works, a ministry of legal and parliamentary affairs was created

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Iraqi government postpones elections

BAGHDAD (AP) — The government announced Monday it has ordered a six-month delay in parliamentary elections that had been planned for the end of this month. "The people and the leadership will be busy with circumstances related to the war situation and the role government institutions should play to achieve victory," the Baghdad Radio announced. The 255-seat, single-chamber parliament was formed in 1980 and elections are held every four years. Membership is not restricted to the ruling Arab Baath Socialist Party but candidates must be committed to the principles of the July 17, 1968 revolution that brought the Baath to power. The voting had been scheduled for Aug. 31 with all those 19 years old or older eligible to cast ballots.

Sudan seeks help to combat locusts

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan declared itself a locust-infested area Sunday and appealed for international help to combat the menace, the Sudanese News Agency SUNA reported. Large swarms of desert locusts have invaded the country from both east and west and more swarms were on their way, the agency quoted Agriculture Minister Al Fathi Al Tiganis as saying. Sudan urgently needed outside aid to meet the cost, estimated at more than \$5 million, of a campaign to rid the country of locusts, he said. The United States, the European Economic Community (EEC) and the Netherlands have already agreed to help since locusts started arriving earlier this month from Chad, the Ethiopian province of Eritrea and possibly northwest Saudi Arabia. Tiganis said Thursday that 30 swarms had settled in Sudan and only three of them had been destroyed so far.

Experts listen to Iranian tapes

NICOSIA (AP) — Aviation experts Sunday listened to cockpit-to-ground conversation taped minutes before a U.S. warship shot down an Iranian jetliner, killing 290 people. The experts from the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), who are in Iran to investigate the shooting down of the Iran air jet, also visited a civil aviation control centre. The official Islamic Republic News Agency, monitored in Cyprus, said Iranian officials presented

"necessary documents" to the team, which is investigating at the request of Iran. The agency said the five-man team listened to a tape of conversation between the pilot of the Airbus and the control centres in Bandar Abbas, Tehran and Dubai, minutes before the crash. The USS Vincennes shot down the plane July 3. American military officials said the plane was approaching in an "attack pattern" and transmitting military-style transponder signals.

Iranian guards accused of Afghan killings

QUETTA, Pakistan (R) — Iranian Revolutionary Guards and Afghan refugees living in Iran have fought a battle in which at least 30 people were killed, according to reports reaching Pakistan. Afghan guerrillas brought news of the battle to the Pakistani city of Quetta and Sunday it was confirmed by a Hezb-i-Islami guerrilla group commander reached by telephone in Iran. The Afghan news agency Bakhtar also reported what appeared to be the same incident and said an Iranian diplomat in Kabul had been summoned to the Afghan Foreign Ministry to explain what had happened. Bakhtar gave no details of casualties. The guerrilla commander, who asked not to be named, said the battle erupted July 23 outside the eastern Iranian city of Zahedan when an Iranian medical team tried to check for a suspected contagious disease at a refugee encampment. Fighting flared when the Afghan refugees, who traditionally keep their women in strict seclusion, refused to allow them to be checked.

Iran sends message to Turkey

ISTANBUL (AP) — An Iranian official arrived Monday to deliver a message to Turkish Premier Turgut Ozal from Iranian Premier Mir Hussein Musavi. In an arrival statement, Deputy Premier Ali Reza Moayeri told reporters that the message asks Turkey to support efforts for an Iran-Iraq ceasefire within the framework of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598. He charged that Iraq was hampering efforts at achieving a ceasefire. Moayeri leaves Tuesday for Greece and Algeria. Over the weekend, Turkish Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz held meetings with Iranian and Iraqi envoys here to urge the start of a ceasefire as soon as possible. A ministry spokesman said Monday.

Palestinians welcome Jordanian move, hope for PLO action

(Continued from page 1)

Kaddoumi told a closed PCC session that ties with Jordan were "distinguished" and "these relations will remain."

But in remarks relayed by PLO officials, Kaddoumi stressed the importance of maintaining "all the rights acquired by the Palestinian people in Jordan," the AP said.

PLO officials said Chairman Yasser Arafat ordered an embargo on all public comments about Jordan's move until the Executive Committee has time to study it.

The PCC, which helps guide the PLO between meetings of the far larger Palestine National Council, has extended its sessions into Tuesday. They had been scheduled to end Monday night.

A top Arafat aide, Bassam Abu Sharif, said in Abu Dhabi the Jordanian decision was not intended to harm ties with the PLO.

He said it made clear to the world that the PLO was a key party to the Middle East conflict. "Jordan's decision was in line with Arab summit resolutions, especially the Algiers conference, and it is not meant to undermine the historic relationship between the PLO and Amman," Abu Sharif said.

"These measures... clarify that no peace is possible in the region without the superpowers dealing with the two major powers involved in the conflict, namely the PLO and Israel," Abu Sharif said.

Abu Sharif was addressing a press conference late Sunday as the King was delivering his address, broadcast on television and radio, explaining that the recent measures adopted by Jordan were aimed at giving greater responsibility for Palestinian affairs to the PLO and enhancing the Palestinian national orientation.

Jordan's measures included cancellation of the Kingdom's development programme for the occupied territories and dissolution of the Lower House of Parliament in which half the 60 members represent the West Bank.

Abu Sharif said that the PLO would accept a confederation with Jordan after the creation of an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza adding that there can be no peace in the Middle East without such an independent state.

Abu Sharif said at the press conference that PLO had called on U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to protect the Palestinians in the occupied territories from the Israeli soldiers.

DFLP statement

Nayef Hawatmeh, leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), said Jordan's announcement was a welcome step.

Calling for more political decisions to strengthen the PLO, he said that reaffirmation of the Palestinian identity in the West Bank was a strike against the "Zionist enemy which does not recognise the Palestinian existence."

A DFLP statement issued in Beirut said Jordan's decision responded to "the will of the masses of the uprising."

A spokesman for the Damascus-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) told Reuters: "The move is a step on the way to the final independence of the Palestinian people."

Comments by several deputies in the Lower House and citizens were carried by the AP and Reuters.

"I would like to convey in the name of thousands to the King not to sever unity" between the

East and West Banks, said Wahid Jabari, who represented Hebron. Mufti Mubaslat, who sat for Nablus, said that while "we respect the constitutional decision and political procedures which will reflect positively on the Palestinian issue... we do not accept that it should be on the expense of our people's unity in the two banks."

"I am deeply sorry that matters have reached this stage," said architect Jaafar Touqan. "I beseech the King and the PLO to reconsider everything and reestablish the old unity formula."

Carlos Dhimis, who represented Bethlehem, said he regretted the break and hoped it would not last.

"I have always advocated full coordination between Jordan and the PLO. I can't understand why the price for this should be dissolving the historical and physical unity of the two banks," he said.

Omar Nabulsi, a Palestinian lawyer and former labour minister, said the King's stress on national unity was a reassurance to Jordanians of Palestinian origin.

"We are Jordanians first of all. But that should not contradict with us clinging on to our Palestinian identity in confronting the Israeli enemy," he said.

According to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, the Jordanian decision dealt a "severe blow to the idea of a united Palestinian nation."

Shamir ruled out an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories as a solution to the Palestinian issue.

"King Hussein, like the PLO, is interested in our full withdrawal from all the territories, but these things will never happen," a spokesman quoted the prime minister as telling New Zealand Ambassador John Cunningham.

"The solution cannot be a territorial one," Shamir said.

U.S. position

The Reagan administration said Monday that the Jordanian move would not derail or alter a U.S. peace plan for the Middle East.

But White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater refused to comment on whether it would make peace more difficult to achieve.

"It does not alter our approach," Fitzwater told reporters at a briefing. "Our policy is not changed in any way by this action."

"Whether it is more difficult or less difficult I'll leave it to others to judge but we have not altered our proposal in any way because of this," he said.

In this speech Sunday, the King declared his support for an independent Palestinian state on the West Bank.

Fitzwater reiterated remarks by Shultz in a television interview Sunday that the administration continues to view Jordan as a major player in any Middle East peace settlement.

"The peace process remains the same in the sense that our proposal was to get the parties together through some conferences that would lead to direct negotiations and that process is not changed," Fitzwater said.

Egyptian newspapers welcomed the Jordanian decision. "It is now literally impossible to ignore the PLO in future peace talks..." the daily newspaper Al Gomhouriya said in an early Tuesday edition.

"This is a clear message to the Israeli and American governments that a seat must be reserved for the PLO in future peace negotiations," the editorial said.

Al Akhbar newspaper said Jordan's "brilliant master-stroke has blocked Israeli claims that the Palestinians already have a state in Jordan."

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Asian firms eye Iran, Iraq projects

TOKYO (R) — Japanese and South Korean companies are looking for a flood of orders when Iran and Iraq start to rebuild their war-damaged economies.

Aggressive Korean competitors could take the lion's share of business promised by the prospect of an end to the Gulf war from the more cautious Japanese, some industry analysts said.

"Japan can expect to get about 10 to 20 per cent of the business. But it won't be like in the past when Japan had over half," said Kiyotake Tsuji of Japan's Institute of Middle East Economics. "South Koreans are making a strong effort, and there will also be approaches from European countries," Tsuji said.

The economist estimated engineering and construction companies could expect demand for

new projects worth \$50.2 billion from Iran and \$103.3 billion from Iraq.

Tsuji put orders to repair war-crippled industrial plant at \$38.3 billion for Iran and \$16.3 billion for Iraq.

In Japan, major trading houses were expected to take the lead in arranging contracts for repairs to damaged plant and construction of new facilities, industry analysts said.

"Most of the contracts Japanese construction firms got before the war went through trading companies," said analyst Daniel Nielsen at SBCI Securities (Asia).

"Trading companies will be the first return to the market, and then if they get big contracts, contractors will reopen offices." Trading houses, several of which are owed large sums by Baghdad, are also keen to take part in new projects in hopes of both making good on old investments and generating new profits, one Japanese trader said.

A trickle of new deals is emerging already but Japanese firms said they were keen to minimise risks.

They cited concern over the source of funding for new projects and caution borne of earlier losses in the region.

Mitsui is still seeking to withdraw from the stalled \$3.5 billion Iran-Japan petrochemical project at Bandar Khomeini, oil industry sources said.

Japanese engineers abandoned

the near completed project in 1984 after some were injured in Iraqi air attacks.

"There is some anxiety over financing," said a spokesman for the Japan Federation of Construction Contractors.

"If there is ODA (official development aid) or some other form of economic assistance, Japanese companies will express interest, but we don't know yet about that aid. We will be cautious in view of past losses."

South Korean builders, heavily reliant on the Middle East market and who kept offices open and contract workers in place in the two countries during the nearly eight-year old war, are likely to be more aggressive than their Japanese counterparts.

A small domestic market and potential excess capacity as Olympic games projects end will

also spur South Korean efforts, analysts said.

"Korean construction companies have been sounding out China and potential markets as their annual receipts of new orders recently dwindled and the news of peace talks between Iran and Iraq was like an oasis in a desert," an official of the Overseas Construction Association of Korea said.

Taiwan contractors said they would also be interested in exploiting business opportunities in Iran and Iraq, but this would depend on whether the two countries dropped hostility to Taipei. Neither recognises Taiwan's nationalist government.

Once the economies are rebuilt, Japanese and Korean firms also hope to sell the two countries consumer goods to satisfy long-suppressed demand.

Egypt to import large amount of Jordanian cement in '89

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Jordan Cement Factories Company (JCFC) is to sell 750,000 tonnes of Jordanian cement to Egypt in accordance with an agreement concluded in Amman Monday.

The consignment will be dispatched at the rate of 60,000 tonnes a month and will be completed in 12 months in accordance with the provisions of the agreement which is part of the Jordanian-Egyptian trade deal endorsed by the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee Sunday.

According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the JCFC is expected to increase the volume of exported cement by selling to the Egyptian private sector.

Last year, the agency noted that the company sold a total of 700,000 tonnes of cement to the Egyptian market.

Barter deal

Under the bilateral deal endorsed Sunday, the two countries will raise the volume of trade between them to \$350 million in 1989 including a barter deal under which Jordan would exchange one million tonnes of cement and raw materials for detergents, wool and glass for Egyptian aluminium, ammonia nitrate, rice, cotton and clothes.

The agreement set private sector trade at \$100 million and allocated \$30 million for public sector trade transactions in foreign currency.

Senior Jordanian officials said world prices would be the basis for the exchange of goods between the two countries.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Monday rates Local selling rates in Jds			
Belgian franc (for 100)	93.80	Saudi riyal	99.40
Dutch guilder	173.70	Syrian lira	11.10
French franc	58.20	Lebanese lira	11.10
Italian lira (for 100)	26.80	Iraqi dinar	330.00
Japanese yen (for 100)	276.50	Kuwaiti dinar	1310.00
Swedish crown	57.40	Egyptian pound	160.00
Swiss franc	235.70	Omani rial	102.00
U.K. sterling pound	631.40	UAE dirham	101.00
U.S. dollar	364.20	Qatari riyal	967.50
Deutschmark	196.10	Bahraini dinar	960.00

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for August 1, 1988.			
	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	90432	JD 123816	181
Top three companies:			
Arab Bank Limited	220	JD 24405	14
National Steel Industries	4700	JD 12673	6
Cairo Amman Bank	378	JD 10584	5
Parallel market:	6608	JD 2911	—
Development bonds:	—	—	—
Treasury bills & bonds:	—	—	—
Other debentures:	—	—	—

JORDAN BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Ministry of Industry and Trade	663191	Jordan Commercial Centres	663507
Ministry of Supply	662121	Corporation	663507
Ministry of Finance	663321	Free Zones Corporation	663501
Ministry of Planning	664466	Amman Financial Market	660170
Ministry of Labour	663106	Amman Chamber of Commerce	666151
Ministry of Communications	667391	Amman Chamber of Industry	664747
Ministry of Agriculture	663931	Association of Banks in Jordan	662258
Income Tax Department	660151	Jordan Association of Insurance Companies	664750
Central Bank of Jordan	663001	General Statistics Department	666171
Amman Customs Department	772181	Jordanian Businessmen Association	660663
Social Security Corporation	663801		
Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation	721194		

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One Sterling	1.7095/7105	U.S. dollar	
One U.S. dollar	1.2090/91	Canadian dollar	
	1.8772/79	Deutschmarks	
	2.1210/20	Dutch guilders	
	1.5637/47	Swiss francs	
	39.29/32	Belgian francs	
	6.3230/60	French francs	
	1385/1386	Italian lire	
	132.97/133.07	Japanese yen	
	6.4250/4300	Swedish crowns	
	6.8010/60	Norwegian crowns	
	7.1290/40	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	436.90/437.30	U.S. dollars	

WORLD STOCK MARKET

SYDNEY — The market closed strongly higher despite the absence of many Sydney institutional traders. The All Ordinaries closed up 12.5 at 1,624.2.

TOKYO — Prices closed higher but were unable to sustain peak levels from the morning as profit-taking seeped into afternoon trade. The Nikkei index rose 126.7 to 28,326.31.

HONG KONG — The market closed sharply higher but profit-taking trimmed early gains. The Hang Seng index gained 24.50 to 2,703.42.

SINGAPORE — Prices were sharply higher on sustained buying and bargain hunting. The Straits Times Industrial index rose 18.79 to 1,162.20, its highest since last October's crash.

BOMBAY — Prices were generally higher, with gains for vehicle shares. Textiles were mixed.

FRANKFURT — The market closed near its peak after a quiet market took its lead from the dollar's strength and gains in U.S. and Japanese stocks. The Commerzbank 60-share index, calculated at mid-session, was up 14.0 at 1,491.9.

ZURICH — Market closed for Swiss national day holiday.

PARIS — Prices were firmer in relatively quiet trade with interest centred on only a few stocks. The 50-share bourse indicator gained by 0.63 per cent.

LONDON — Prices eased below the day's highs on Wall Street's mixed opening. Special situation stocks attracted most attention in modest trade. At 1513 GMT, the FTSE-100 index was up 9.4 at 1,863.0.

NEW YORK — Stocks edged lower as profit-taking overcame early buying based on a rally last Thursday and Friday. U.S. bonds gained on short covering. The Dow was down 1 1/2 at 2,127.

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London still sees few women dealers in financial markets

LONDON (R) — London stockbrokers wrangled for years over whether to let women trade in shares but, when the barriers came down, few stepped in to do so.

Fifteen years after women were formally permitted to trade on the London Stock Exchange, the latest list of authorised brokers includes perhaps one, or at most two, women on each page of some 50 names.

It is not so much that "the city", as the London heart of British finance is called, deliberately still tries to keep them out but that they do not try to get in. "The city is still a male bastion — that puts a lot of women off," said woman stockbroker Karine Sheehan of Laurence Prust. "The barriers are psychological."

Many women prefer careers in the newer markets, such as options and futures, rather than in the traditionally male markets like stocks or foreign exchange.

The London International Financial Futures Exchange (LIFFE), established in 1982, has

always been open to both sexes and now has two female directors.

One, Rosalyn Wilton, is also managing director of the commodities arm of investment and securities house Drexel Burnham Lambert.

But a media image of financial dealing as a macho business for ruthless fortune-hunters still seems to deter many women.

"Women just don't see themselves in that role," said one woman who trades in Eurobonds. A male dealer offered a different explanation.

"It's because of the men," he said. The dealer, who wanted to remain anonymous, is a senior salesman of British government securities, or "gilts."

Pin-ups in the dealing rooms, and crude male talk about sex, offended many women, he said.

And there were more subtle forms of sexism, he said, such as nicknames. He recalled one woman who ended up as "boiler." Another was "slapper."

American Nancy Goldstone, who came to London in 1985 to set up a trading desk for currency options, recalled her first day in a British dealing room.

"I was walking through and it was there on the wall right in front of me, a picture of a naked woman," she said. "I just stopped dead."

For some men, she said, trading was like a test of virility. "It's like they're having sex with their screens. Their manhood is on the line as much as their money," she noted.

Goldstone gave up dealing because she found that following the markets around the clock was ruining her home life.

"You can't be a little bit of a trader, like you can't be just a little bit pregnant," she said. "Perhaps women prefer to have some outside life."

Many women, however, said they enjoyed their work. They said they did occasionally come across some sexism, but had learned how to cope with it and even thrive.

"I give as good as I get," said one.

Karine Sheehan, 26, said she would not consider giving up her job if she were married and had children. "I hate housekeeping. I love dealing," she said.

Others said that being a woman could be an advantage when entertaining clients or trying to catch the eye of management.

"When you're one of three women at a cocktail party where everyone else is in a grey suit and a yellow tie, you're going to stand out," said Goldstone.

Hong Kong cracks down on fake computer software industry

HONG KONG (R) — Hong Kong has declared war on the booming fake computer software industry, with tough new powers for investigators and a series of raids that netted goods worth 8.5 million dollars (about \$1.08 million).

"We are determined to eradicate computer piracy in Hong Kong," a senior government official told Reuters Monday.

Shops in Kowloon's golden shopping arcade, normally packed with pirated software and manuals, were deserted, their shelves bare after raids by customs and trade department officers.

On Sunday, investigators made the fourth in a series of swoops which have yielded thousands of pirated diskettes and counterfeit manuals. Some 30 shops were dealing in counterfeit goods, alongside stores selling genuine goods.

The official said the raid was aimed at three main stores, as well as mobile traders selling from street stalls.

"When our officers appeared the mobile traders just ran, we found their stalls abandoned," he added.

Ironically, officials say counter-

feit hardware is not a problem. Most personal computers produced in Hong Kong or elsewhere are sufficiently modified not to attract complaints from multinational companies such as IBM.

Software is different — a genuine word processing programme, with manual, such as wordstar, costs 3,860 dollars (\$495). A pirated version costs only 60 dollars (\$7.60), with an extra 100 dollars (\$12.80) for the manual.

In the United States such a programme would retail for about \$500 (3,900 Hong Kong) though discount stores would knock some 60 per cent off that price.

"That has been the problem in Hong Kong — There's no middle ground," said one computer expert. "You either have to pay the full price or go for a cheap pirated version. There is no discount market for genuine software."

"This is not going to help the regular industry," one shopkeeper commented. "Not everybody in Hong Kong can afford their prices. At least before counterfeiters introduced people to computers. Now they may think twice."

Officials and dealers alike say it is impossible to put a price tag on the pirate software business, which has blossomed over the past few years with the use of personal computers for office and home.

The government granted customs officers sweeping powers allowing them to search suspected premises without a warrant.

"It's like draining the water so the fish have nowhere to swim," Wong said.

Officials and dealers alike say it is impossible to put a price tag on the pirate software business, which has blossomed over the past few years with the use of personal computers for office and home.

Ironically, officials say counter-

USAID, World Bank push for privatising electric power

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) said last week it is pressing Third World governments to let more electricity be furnished by private business.

James Sullivan, director of the

agency's office of energy, said government-owned systems in most Third World countries have failed to keep up with demand.

"We have a major pilot project in Pakistan," Sullivan said. "We're putting roughly \$150 million into a private power development fund which will make money available to private power developers..."

"We are collaborating very closely on that project with the World Bank and there are a number of other donors that are also into the project: Italians, British and Japanese probably will be in there," Sullivan said.

He said everyone who has ever stayed in a Third World hotel has seen the candle placed everywhere for use in the frequent blackouts caused by power shortages. Those blackouts are more than an inconvenience to visitors as they can mean the loss of two per cent of a country's total production, he said.

To keep up with demand for

electricity at the rate it is now expanding would cost \$125 billion a year, he said. "That is just not going to happen," he added.

"The capital just isn't there." Some countries already are spending \$8 on power development for every dollar they spend on health or education, he added. Sullivan acknowledged that many governments dislike allowing private power production.

"In India, for example, it's basically illegal to generate your own power," he said. "Nevertheless the Indian government has now approved private generation schemes."

Anthony A. Churchill, director of industry and energy at the World Bank, said: "The opposition one encounters from governments has to do a lot with their fears of loss of control."

Most of these countries used to have a monopoly at one time or another, he said.

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Claesen leaves Tottenham for Antwerp

BRUSSELS (AP) — International striker Nico Claesen has returned to Belgium and joined Antwerp from English first division Tottenham Hotspur, a spokeswoman for Antwerp said Monday. She said Claesen had signed a two-year contract with Antwerp, who finished as runner-up in the Belgian first division last season, but did not reveal the fee. Claesen, 26, joined Tottenham from Standard Liege in a £600,000 (\$864,000) transfer in October 1986 after starring for Belgium during the Mexico World-Cup finals.

Gornik starts soccer season with draw

WARSAW (R) — Champions Gornik Zabrze drew 1-1 at home with Slask Wroclaw at the start of the last season before the Polish first division is cut to 14 teams. Gornik scored through a long shot by international midfielder Robert Warzycha in the 37th minute. Slask equalised four minutes from the end when another international midfielder, Ryszard Tarasiewicz, scored with a free kick. The Polish league is being reformed after years of public criticism of dull matches. In addition to the first division being reduced from 16 teams, the second division will be changed from two groups of 16 to one of 18. The third division will be cut from eight groups to four.

East German athlete defects to West

EAST BERLIN (R) — Prospective East German Olympic swimmer Steffen Liess defected to the West in May while he and other national team members were on their way to a Mexico training camp, the sports federation said Monday. It said the 23-year-old European Cup champion in the 400 metres freestyle in 1983 and 1985 had been a candidate for the Olympic team. A spokeswoman for the East German sports federation confirmed reports that Liess had failed to return to East Germany. The West German sports news agency SID said Liess, a student from Leipzig, slipped away from his teammates during a stopover in Amsterdam on a flight to Mexico for a three-week high-altitude training camp. He was now in Switzerland, it added.

McGirt knocks out Davis in first round

NEW YORK (AP) — Buddy McGirt knocked out Howard Davis in the first round, retaining his International Boxing Federation (IBF) junior welterweight title Sunday and almost certainly ending Davis' quest to turn Olympic gold into a world professional title. McGirt, in his first title defense since winning the belt last February, set Davis up with a left hand, then finished him with a right 2 minutes, 45 seconds into the fight. Davis failed in a third attempt to win a professional title, a feat accomplished by the other four 1976 U.S. Olympic boxing gold medalists. "This is probably my last fight," the 32-year-old Davis said afterward. For the 24-year-old McGirt, it is just the beginning. Now McGirt takes on another Olympic gold medalist, 1984 featherweight champion Meldrick Taylor, on Sept. 3 at a site to be determined. McGirt won the IBF title when he stopped Frankie Warren in the 12th round in Corpus Christi, Texas, on Feb. 14.

Hohmann in line for Olympic return

LEEDS, England (R) — Margaret Hohmann, who retired from swimming after the 1980 Moscow Games, made virtually certain of a remarkable Olympic return at the advanced swimming age of 31 at the British Championships Saturday. Hohmann, who returned to the sport after the birth of her son two years ago, outswam several rivals barely half her age to finish second behind Saki Brownson in the final of the 100 metres breaststroke and put herself in line for her third Olympics.

Baseball Standings

NEW YORK (AP) — Major league standings following Sunday's games.

American League East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Detroit	81	41	.588	—
New York	80	42	.588	1
Boston	80	43	.583	1½
Cleveland	52	53	.495	10½
Milwaukee	52	54	.491	11
Toronto	51	54	.486	11½
Baltimore	32	71	.311	29½

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Oakland	84	41	.610	—
Minnesota	57	45	.559	5½
California	53	51	.510	10½
Kansas City	52	52	.500	11½
Texas	46	57	.447	17
Chicago	46	58	.442	17½
Seattle	40	64	.385	23½

National League East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	63	40	.612	—
Pittsburgh	58	45	.563	5
Montreal	55	48	.534	8
Chicago	50	53	.485	13
Philadelphia	45	59	.433	18½
St. Louis	45	59	.433	18½

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Los Angeles	60	43	.583	—
Houston	56	48	.538	4½
San Francisco	56	48	.538	4½
Cincinnati	51	53	.490	9½
San Diego	48	57	.457	13
Atlanta	35	69	.337	25½

Zico still undecided about his soccer future

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Brazil's veteran World Cup striker Zico said Sunday he was still undecided about his future in soccer.

"I have three offers but (have made) no decision yet," he told Reuters.

Zico, 35, said the offers were to renew his contract with Rio's Flamengo, play for a Japanese club and start a soccer camp for youngsters in Japan, or join Brazil's All-Star team which will take part in the World Cup for seniors in January.

"Each of the offers has a different advantage, a different appeal. I must say I'm a bit confused. But I hope to come up with a decision within the next two weeks," he said.

Zico, a World Cup player in 1978, 1982 and 1986, said he would also consider retiring from the game and becoming a full-time television commentator.

He made his debut this week, commenting on a friendly match between Brazil and Norway in Oslo.

Zico said that before deciding whether to continue playing he had to be sure he was fit enough to endure another tough Brazilian season.

"I love Flamengo but I do not want to jeopardize a reputation built during a long career. If my muscles cannot cope with the problems a player has to face during a long season, I'd rather quit now," he said.



American footballers warm up for the NFL preseason game at Wembley

Miami Dolphins win NFL preseason game

WEMBLEY, England (AP) — Reserve quarterback Dave Archer sped into the end zone of the 49ers each played the first quarter before being replaced.

Marino had the better of the early plays as the San Francisco defense started edgily. The first time Marino touched the ball, he found running back Troy Stradford with a 14-yard pass. Then Marino saw an 11-yard pass to Mark Clayton in the end zone slip out of the normally reliable wide receiver's hands.

As the skies darkened and rain began to lash down on the Wembley field, Miami's early pressure finally earned it a touchdown. Running back Lorenzo Hampton dived over from the 3 with 9:58 of the quarter gone.

Fuad Reveiz kicked the extra point to give the Dolphins a 7-0 lead.

As San Francisco, which had only 3:46 of possession in the first quarter, continued to lose yardage, Reveiz kicked a 45-yard field goal to extend the Dolphins' lead.

Montana, whose wide receivers had given him little help, left the field for Steve Young and Marino gave way to Ron Jaworski in the second period.

Young's appearance sparked the 49ers to life. His combination of accurate, left-handed throwing and powerful, imaginative running cut holes through the Miami defense.

On his second play, Young carried for 11 yards, then picked up a first down with a scorching 41-yard pass to star wide receiver Jerry Rice.

With Miami's defense mesmerized, Young threw a 2-yard touchdown pass to running back Tom Rathman. Ray Wersching kicked the extra point and the 49ers, last year's NFL leaders in yardage, were back in the game, trailing 10-7.

With 2:53 left in the quarter, a fan dressed in Bermuda shorts and a T-shirt emblazoned with the face of Mickey Mouse ran on to the field and was quickly apprehended by police.

On the next play, a neat 49ers move ended with Terence Flagler carrying six yards into the corner of the end zone. Wersching again kicked successfully.

A nine-play Miami drive ended with a Reveiz 43-yard field goal with two seconds remaining in the half, lifting the Dolphins within 14-13.

Although the second half had fewer high-class plays than the first as more reserves entered the game, it always was interesting.

After a turnover-free first half, Miami took the lead again when Harry Sydney slipped on the wet grass, fumbled a Young pass, and Miami's Jackie Shipp picked it up and ran 11 yards to score.

Young continued to spray around accurate passes but could not find the same coordination as before with his receivers. He left the field to be replaced by third-string quarterback John Payne.

Maradona, Bianchi make public peace

LODRONE, Italy (R) — Argentine football star Diego Maradona publicly apologized to Napoli manager Ottavio Bianchi Sunday, one week after strongly criticizing him.

In a carefully staged reconciliation before reporters as the players assembled for pre-season training in northern Italy, the Napoli captain said: "I apologise for all that has happened, to the manager, to my teammates and to the fans."

He said he now just wanted to get back to work "to make the side great."

On July 23 Maradona issued what amounted to a statement of no-confidence in his manager, saying he had wanted him out of the job at the end of last season. He had earlier criticised the signing of new Brazilian star Alemão.

But on Sunday, the captain of Argentina's World Cup winning side told reporters: "I hope Alemão will prove to be the best of all the new foreign players signed in Italy... I hope he too will become my friend."

After a photo session of smiling handshakes with his captain, Bianchi said: "I have never had any doubts about Maradona. Diego is often under a lot of pressure."

Sixteen Napoli players have been fined by the Italian League for an open revolt against Bianchi.

Agassi bags 5th Nabisco Grand Prix tennis title

STRATTON MOUNTAIN, Vermont (Agencies) — Second-seeded Andre Agassi won his fifth Nabisco Grand Prix singles title of the year Sunday, defeating Paul Annacone 6-2, 6-4 at the Volvo International Tennis Tournament.

The 18-year-old sensation used a powerful forehand passing shot and a backhand lob to capture his first title at the tournament where he first rocketed to attention two years ago. He won \$144,000 in prize money.

In the doubles final, the South African team of Pieter Aldrich and Danie Visser defeated Jorge Lozano of Mexico and Todd Witsken of the United States, 6-3, 7-6 (7-5).

In winning, Agassi said he could have done a few things better. "I could have broken him early on in the second set... but you can't complain. In general, I was playing good tennis," said Agassi, an American, who is ranked fifth in the world.

Annacone, the No. 13 seed, said he had problems with his serve and misjudgment of Agassi's return. Annacone double-faulted four times in the first three games, the last time at break point.

"I was trying to serve too big, and I think that's one of my problems because that's my weapon," said the 25-year-old American, who is ranked 48th in the world.

"I'm not really pleased with the way I played today, but it was a very productive week for me," said Annacone, who was playing in his first final since 1985.

Annacone was broken in the third game of the first set and again in the fifth when Agassi blasted a forehand passing shot.

Both players held serve until the ninth game of the second set, when Agassi struck once more with a passing shot on a service return. Down 30-40 in the next and final game, Annacone was long on a service return, and Agassi threw up his racket in elation.

"Not bad for a week's work here," he told the crowd of 12,000 after accepting his check. Later, during the awards ceremony, he presented his coach, Nick Bollettieri, with a birthday cake.

Agassi, a charismatic young man who plays in denim shorts and blows kisses to the crowd, has also won Grand Prix titles this year in Memphis, Charleston, New York, and Stuttgart, West Germany.

Graf grabs Hamburg title

In Hamburg, West Germany, world number one Steffi Graf beat Bulgarian Katina Maleeva 6-4, 6-2 to win the \$200,000 Hamburg Women's Tennis Tournament Sunday then turned on the West German crowd in anger at their disenchantment.

The Australian, French and Wimbledon champion, whose form fluctuated wildly during the tournament, shouted "not satisfied today?" at the 7,000 crowd when they whistled and booed during a post-match court-side interview.

When they did the same again a few minutes later the 19-year-old blonde, looking close to tears, yelled through the microphone "what do you want (from me) then?"

The interviewer had asked her about her attitude towards the spectators who, on several days, criticised her loudly for beating her opponents too quickly or for making too many errors. Her shouted remarks were her replies.

Muster collects \$43,000

In Bordeaux, France, Austria's Thomas Muster won his second Nabisco Grand Prix title in a month Sunday, defeating Haiti's Ronald Agenor 6-3, 6-3, in the final of the \$245,000 Bordeaux passing shot tennis tournament.

Muster won \$43,000 for his victory, while Agenor collected \$21,500. Muster won at Boston in the first week of July, beating Andre Agassi on his way to the final.

Sanchez lifts Dutch title

In Hilversum, Netherlands, second-seeded Emilio Sanchez of Spain defeated top-seeded Guillermo Perez-Roldan of Argentina 6-3, 6-1, 3-6, 6-3 Sunday to capture the \$150,000 Nabisco Grand Prix tournament.

In a 2-hour, 43-minute match, the 23-year-old Sanchez dropped only one set, and Perez-Roldan won it after three set points.

In the early stages of the match, played at the Melkhuise tennis complex, Sanchez managed to break through the Argentinian's second service game. After 25 minutes, the Spaniard had taken a 3-1 lead.

Helped by a double fault by Sanchez and one his own few aces, Perez-Roldan won the next two games to pull even. However, Sanchez, who is ranked 20th in the world, took the next three games in barely 20 minutes.

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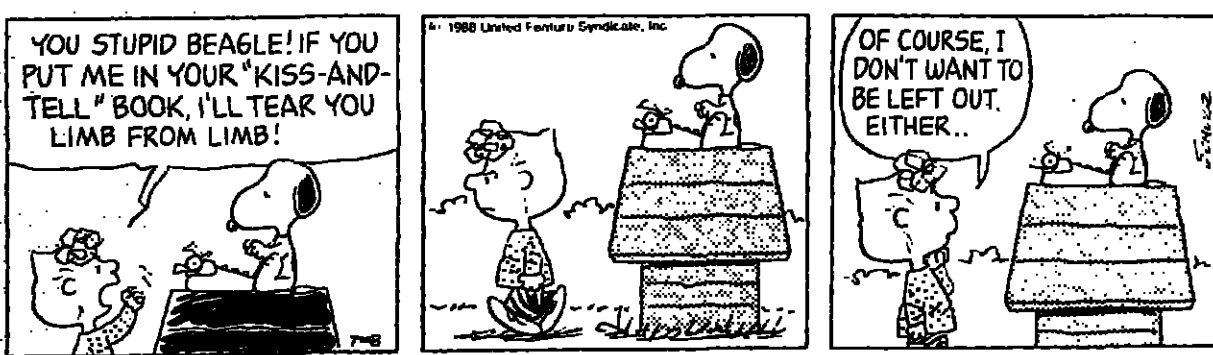
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THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



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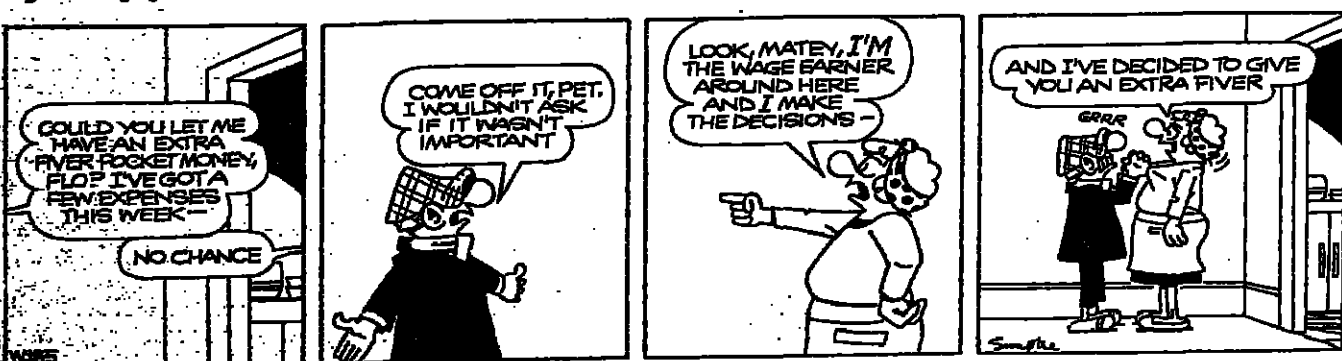
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Soviets pursue call for pan-European talks

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union intends to pursue a proposal by Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev for a pan-European summit to launch conventional arms reduction talks, official sources said Monday.

The sources said the message was delivered to West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher during talks with Gorbachev and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in Moscow at the weekend.

"The idea has not been dropped, far from it," one Moscow official said. "We think this would be an ideal way to clear the ground for the conventional negotiations and give them a political impulse."

And a senior Soviet political commentator, writing in the Communist Party newspaper Pravda Monday, said the idea first advanced by Gorbachev in a speech in Warsaw July 11 was gaining ground in other countries.

"The sooner this forum takes place, the greater the chances for real disarmament will be," the commentator, Yuri Zhukov, said.

An official report on Genscher's talks with Shevardnadze said the Soviet minister described the idea as part of "a set of measures aimed at creating a new, peaceful and secure Europe."

There was a generally negative reaction among member states of the West's NATO alliance when Gorbachev raised the idea — which he described as a "European Reykjavik" — in an address to the Polish parliament, the Sejm.

Some Western officials said they saw it as an attempt to split the United States and Canada from their European allies.

At a Moscow news conference Sunday, Genscher said the Kremlin chief and Shevardnadze had assured him they recognised it was not in Soviet interests to try to split the western alliance.

Soviet officials, attending the Warsaw meeting with Gorbachev, initially suggested he had left the question open whether the two North American NATO members should attend the gathering.

But Moscow spokesman said later all 35 participants in the current European security conference in Vienna, a follow-up meeting to the first conference in Helsinki in 1975, should be at the proposed summit.

And in his Pravda article, Zhukov said it should be convened "naturally with the presence of the United States and Canada."

There was some speculation that the idea had been dropped after a summit meeting of the Soviet bloc Warsaw Pact in the Polish capital.

Gorbachev used the term "European Reykjavik" in a reference to his summit meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan in the Iceland capital in October 1986.

Although the meeting broke up without agreement after considering wide-ranging disarmament proposals, Gorbachev has since argued that it laid the groundwork for the subsequent INF treaty on liquidating intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF).

Soviets destroy missiles

Soviet officers, using powerful

explosives at the Central Asian test-range in Saryozek Monday, destroyed the first nuclear missiles to be liquidated under the treaty.

Four shorter-range SS-12s, known in Soviet military terminology as OTR-22s, were blown up in an elaborate ceremony watched by an official U.S. inspection team, other foreign observers and some journalists.

They were the first of 1,752 Soviet missiles with a range of from 500 to 5,500 kilometres scheduled for destruction under the accord.

Soviet officials have hailed the ceremony as "the real dawn of the disarmament era" — noting it marks the first time the superpowers have moved to destroy a substantial part of their arsenals of offensive weaponry.



DUKE'S DANCE: The U.S. Democratic presidential candidate, Michael Dukakis, shows his Greek paces along with members of the Pancretan Association at a convention in Boston this week

Seoul suggests working contacts to Pyongyang

SEOUL (AP) — South Korea's National Assembly sent a letter to North Korea Monday proposing preliminary talks to prepare for full-dress parliamentary talks on easing tension on the divided Korean peninsula.

The letter, addressed to Yang Hyung Sup, chairman of the supreme People's Assembly, in Pyongyang, was handed over to North Korea through the truce village of Pannunjom, inside the demilitarized zone that separates the two Koreas.

"We hope you will respond affirmatively to our proposal for holding representatives' talks as soon as possible," National Assembly Speaker Kim Chae-Sun said in the letter.

Kim said he has named 15 delegates for the proposed talks and asked North Korea to do the same. Assembly officials suggested the talks convene next week in Pannunjom.

The South Korean delegates

consist of six lawmakers from the governing Democratic Justice Party and nine from the three main opposition parties.

The South Korean letter was in response to two North Korean proposals last month calling for a joint session of the two countries' parliaments to draft a non-aggression pact and discuss North Korea's possible participation in the Olympic Games in Seoul, which begin Sept. 17.

In one letter delivered July 21, North Korea proposed that the legislatures of the two Koreas hold a joint session by the end of this month to discuss various tension-easing measures, including a joint declaration of non-aggression.

In the other letter, sent five days later, North Korea said the joint parliamentary session, if held, should also discuss its bid to be a co-host of the Olympic Games.

South Korean officials admitted that North Korea's Olympic co-hosting demand could be a stumbling block, but said they want to use the occasion anyway to open contact with the North.

Seoul officials said privately that the resumption of contact with North Korea would help ensure the safety of the Olympics.

North Korea has said it will boycott the Olympics in Seoul unless its demand to be a co-host is met. The International Olympic Committee has turned down the North Korean demand, saying the Olympics are awarded to a single city and cannot be shared.

Death toll rises in Malaysia pier collapse

KUALA LUMPUR (Agencies) — Rescue teams worked late into the night to recover victims from the wreckage of a jetty which collapsed Sunday as thousands of people queued for a ferry in Butterworth, northern Malaysia, officials said.

The death toll rose to 31 when one person died overnight and one of the 832 injured was in critical condition.

"We think all bodies have been recovered," Deputy Penang State Secretary Mohammad Noraini Kamarun told Reuters by telephone. He said 413 people were seriously hurt and 419 treated for injuries.

"We are doing our best to contact families of the victims, including a Frenchman and two Singaporeans," Noraini said. Police and witnesses said all the dead were Malaysian but several foreigners were among the injured.

Officials said the jetty collapsed at 4.40 p.m. (0840 GMT) Sunday as 3,000 people lined up to cross from Butterworth to the resort island of Penang for a religious festival in honour of Kwan Yin, the Buddhist god of mercy.

Penang attracted some 100,000 people at the weekend to attend a procession honouring Kwan Yin which takes place only once every 60 years.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Mahatir Mohammad and Transport Minister Datuk Ling Liong Sik were at the site Monday to investigate the cause of the accident, the worst in Malaysia since 1977 when a Malaysian Airlines System Boeing 737 crashed in the southern state Johore with the loss of 100 lives.

Survivors said a portion of the upper level of the wooden pier collapsed as the waiting passengers surged towards the ferry, throwing hundreds of people about 12 metres to the lower level. The port commission halted ferry service between Butterworth and Penang pending an investigation.

Pigs may turn organ donors

LONDON (R) — A chance laboratory discovery means that British doctors could transplant pigs' hearts, and kidneys into humans, according to a leading surgeon. Transplant surgeon Michael Bewick said the plan could save thousands of people who were dying because of a severe shortage of human donor organs. Bewick said a first step would be to transplant organs from animals such as pigs into sheep and then, if that succeeded, into human patients. "If the animal work went brilliantly well, we could theoretically do a human transplant next year," he said, "but it is more likely to be in two or three years." The work is being done at the renal unit at Dulwich Hospital in south London, where Bewick and his team have carried out transplants over the past 20 years. Previous attempts to transplant animal organs into humans have failed because the human body rejects tissue from other species.

Good news for Turkish turtles

ISTANBUL (R) — The year's first hatching of Turkey's threatened sea turtles has gone well amid reports that the state has banned all building in new conservation areas. Anatolian news agency said about 180 caretta caretta and chelonia mydas turtles hatched this weekend at the south coast Anamur Beach, watched by Turkish and European naturalists. European conservationists from Brigitte Bardot to West Germany's Greens have campaigned fiercely to save the turtles since plans were unveiled to build a hotel complex on their main Mediterranean breeding beach at Daylan. Tourist development on Turkey's Mediterranean coast threatens to wipe out the big turtles, who abandon nocturnal egg-laying and flee if disturbed by noise or light.

Sean Penn to pay damages

NEW YORK (AP) — Criminal mischief charges against actor Sean Penn have been dismissed after he agreed to pay for damage to a photographer's car. Penn, known for running afoul of the law with his fists, was accused of kicking in the driver's side door of New York Post photographer Paul Adao's car July 3. Adao said he was in the driver's seat of his car, photographing Penn and his wife, pop singer Madonna, when Penn attacked. Adao said it will cost the 27-year-old actor about \$800 to fix the car door. He said Penn will also pay the cost of renting a car while Adao's auto is being repaired. Penn, the star of "Fast Times at Ridgemont High," "The Falcon and the Snowman" and "Colors," was released from jail in Los Angeles Sept. 17 after serving more than half a 60-day sentence for violating probation by punching a movie extra.

Rat — Indian or Soviet?

NEW DELHI (R) — Air India is investigating how a rat got aboard a plane it supplied for President Ramaswamy Venkataraman's trip to the Soviet Union, the Times of India newspaper reported Monday. It said the rat was discovered when Venkataraman's plane arrived back in Delhi last month from Tashkent, last stop on his Soviet tour. Top question for the investigators was whether the rat was Indian and took part in the whole 10-day presidential tour, or if it was Soviet, the paper said.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

139 killed in Chinese floods

PEKING (AP) — Flash floods killed 139 people and left about 300 others missing in eastern China's Zhejiang province, an official newspaper said Monday. The flooding Friday, caused by heavy rainstorms, left thousands homeless, the People's Daily reported. It was the second major flood in Zhejiang this summer, after torrential rains killed 45 in the province in late June. The latest disaster brought to nearly 700 the number of Chinese reported to have died in floods this year. Hundreds more have died from a heat wave this summer and large areas of central and southern China face water and food shortages from a prolonged drought.

Problems continue to plague Discovery

CAPE CANAVERAL (AP) — A leak developed Sunday in Discovery's fuel lines, raising the possibility of another postponement of a test firing of the space shuttle's engines, the U.S. Space Agency said early Monday. The leak occurred as crews were filling the external fuel tanks with liquid hydrogen and oxygen, said Cindy Buck, a spokeswoman for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). We're trouble-shooting the liquid hydrogen leak and looking to see if we will be able to continue filling the tank to completion right now," she said early Monday. Earlier Sunday, a two-part countdown resumed for the test-firing of Discovery's engines after engineers repaired a hydrogen leak and a balky oxygen pump. The problems that cropped up Friday had caused the fourth postponement in 10 days for the test, which is considered critical to certifying Discovery for the first shuttle flight since the Jan. 28, 1986 Challenger disaster that killed all seven astronauts.

Bombs in Srinagar arouse new fears

SRINAGAR (R) — Two bombs exploded in Srinagar, capital of Kashmir, reviving fears of new political tension in the disputed state. The first bomb went off outside the exclusive Srinagar Club late Saturday and the second about four hours later near the central telephone office early Sunday, police said. Nobody was injured, but both buildings suffered damage to outer walls and windows. Local

officials said they were concerned that the explosions, first for more than two years, could herald a new wave of civil violence in Srinagar, which attracts thousands of Indian and foreign tourists each year. Kashmir, India's only Muslim-majority state, is also claimed by Pakistan, which controls about one-third of its territory. The two countries have fought three wars since their independence in 1947.

Japanese-Americans to get damages

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress is poised this week to give final approval to legislation providing more than \$1 billion to Japanese-Americans who were forced from their homes and sent to internment camps during World War II. The House of Representatives is expected to approve the bill Wednesday, sending it to the White House, where President Ronald Reagan is likely to sign it into law. If all goes according to that schedule, Japanese-Americans who qualify should start getting individual \$20,000 tax-free payments in about a year. The most elderly will be given priority for the first payments. Enactment of the reparations bill will help end the nearly half-century-old controversy over how the United States treated its Japanese-American population after Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, Dec. 7, 1941. About 120,000 U.S. citizens and resident aliens of Japanese descent were singled out — unlike Americans of German or Italian descent — and sent to internment camps for the duration of the war.

Sihanouk visits North Korea

PEKING (AP) — Kampuchean leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk left for North Korea Monday after a two-day visit to China during which he briefed Chinese leaders on last week's talks in Indonesia among Kampuchea's warring factions. Sihanouk met Sunday with Vice-Premier Wu Xueqian, who said the Indonesian meeting marked the beginning of a search for a political settlement, but accused Soviet-backed Vietnam of being insincere in its efforts to achieve peace in Kampuchea, the China Daily reported. Upon his arrival Saturday night in China, Sihanouk said prospects for peace in his country were "very slim." He criticised both Vietnam and the Khmer Rouge.

S. African papers blast ban on 'Cry Freedom'

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Newspapers have widely condemned the government's ban on "Cry Freedom" and said the anti-apartheid film could help South Africans confront and address their deep racial divisions.

The movie tells the story of black South African activist Steve Biko, who died in police detention in 1977, and white journalist Donald Woods, who befriended him.

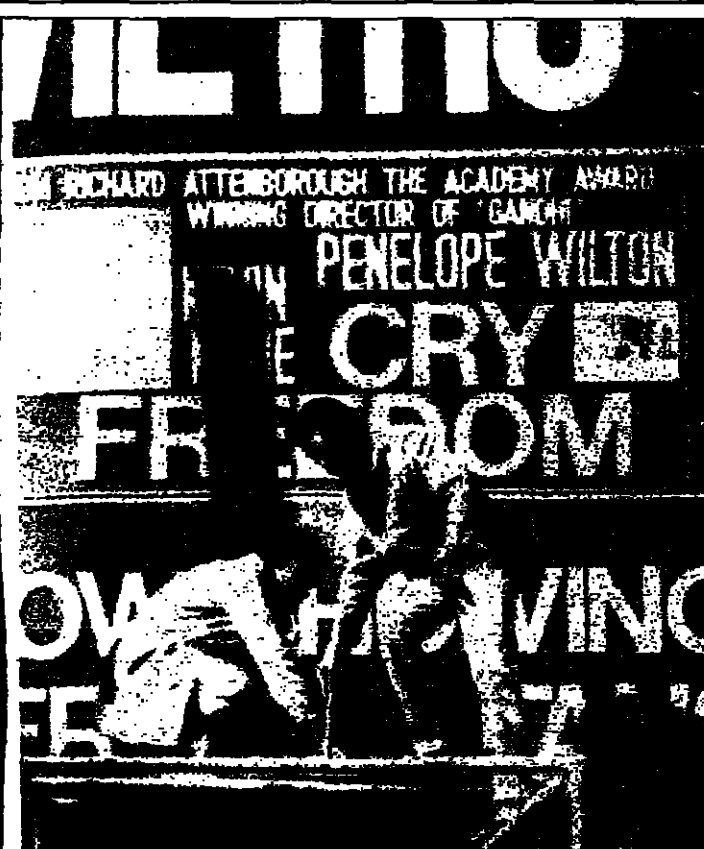
The film was approved by government censors Friday morning and immediately began playing in 30 theatres nationwide. However, police seized the film seven hours later, saying it was contributing to the "revolutionary climate" in South Africa.

"South Africans have been re-

minded anew that the government wants to decide for them what they should see, think, feel," the independent Sunday Star said in an editorial.

"The central point about 'Cry Freedom' is... whether South Africans are mature enough to confront a substantially accurate and thoroughly discomfiting piece of recent history," the Star said. "We think they are."

During the film's brief run, three bombs exploded at theatres where the movie was shown and there were several bomb threats. There were no injuries. On Saturday, a bomb blast at a shopping area in a white suburb outside Johannesburg killed one woman and injured 56.



Workers take down signs for 'Cry Freedom' in Johannesburg

THE Daily Crossword by Hank Harrington

ACROSS

- Inca land
- Wrong
- Hindu ruler
- Rapid walk
- Seer's card
- Wildlife
- Truthfully
- Sp. ladies
- Russ revolutionist
- Title of respect
- Highway
- Trash
- Staple crop
- Parent
- Hung back
- Approval mark
- Uprights
- Phrase about common knowledge
- House partner
- Record
- Poor grade
- Verve
- Johnny
- Ohio team
- Unwanted plant
- Lode deposit
- Lobstering boats
- "I Am —"
- Initially
- Eur. region
- Apocryphal
- Study rooms
- Submerged
- Adjusted
- "East of —"

DOWN

- School orgs.
- Goldfish
- Horse
- Greatest
- Rose oil
- Wilder of tennis
- Anger
- Sudden attack
- Baby bird?
- Sever's transaction
- Transport
- Oh, wool

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

WASB HANAP ARRS
WIND ANNO PONT
SQUORAPERS BASIA
BRIEARS OMMESARY
FARS GARY
ESP LRA DRI GSA
LEAPS SIOLO DROD
BETTER RABIS DROD
DRI ERY SIA DRI
GOLA SPO
TIRIBURES CINAPPA
MOPE GRAICRORRRI
ELARS BOURBRIIA
KUSIE DRIAT AREN

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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USE THOSE ENTRIES WELL

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ Q 7 6
♥ 4
♦ K J 8 7 3
♣ K 8 6 2

WEST
♠ 9
♥ K J 8 6 2
♦ Q 10 5 4
♣ Q 9

EAST
♠ 10 9 8 4
♥ 10 7 5 3
♦ 9 2
♣ J 10 5

SOUTH
♠ A K 5 3 2
♥ 7 A Q
♦ A 6
♣ A 7 4 3

The bidding:
South West North East
2 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass
3 ♦ Pass 4 ♦ Pass
5 ♦ Pass 5 ♦ Pass
6 ♦ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠
It is not easy to decide whether, at the slam level, to play in a 4-4 or a 5-3 fit. If you have no loss outside the 4-4 suit, it is often preferable to play in the 5-3 suit; you might be able to overcome a 4-1 split in the 4-4 side suit by discarding on another suit, whereas if that suit were trumps, you would have two unavoidable losers.

South's decision to open 2 no trump was reasonable. The spade suit lacked the intermediates and the hand was a whit weak for a demand bid in the suit, and a one spade

opening bid risked a pass. Thereafter, a natural auction led to the point where South had to choose between black-suit slams, and in view of the lack of club intermediates, his decision to opt for spades cannot be faulted.

As he was reluctant to lead away from his side-suit honors, West attacked with a trump. Declarer won in hand, then continued with a trump to the queen to learn that he had a sure loser in the suit. His problem, therefore, was to avoid losing a club trick, and to accomplish that he would have to establish dummy's diamonds for discards. Since West was short in spades he ruffed to have length in diamonds, so declarer cashed the ace of diamonds and finessed the jack successfully. He ruffed a low diamond to set up the suit as East discarded a heart, cashed the ace of hearts and ruffed the queen. When he led the king of diamonds from the table, East was a dead duck. If East elected not to ruff, declarer would simply have stuffed his two clubs on the diamonds, so East could do no better than ruff. Declarer pitched a club, won the club shift in hand and drew the last trump. The king of clubs served as the entry for him to reach the board's good diamond and discard his remaining club loser.

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TORIB

ELLAP

ROTRAM

ORTREER

Answer the Jumbles: LIME COLE SPICE ASPRAY

Answer: What kind of animal makes these noises? — A POSSIBLE CAT (pawprint)